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ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

SEVENTEEN VOLUMES.

—(14.)—

SLAVERY.

Session

15 November 1837——16 August 1838.

VOL. XLIX.

1838.

ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS

1851-2

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ABOLITION OF SLAVERY

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P A P E R S

PRESENTED TO PARLIAMENT, BY

HER MAJESTY'S COMMAND,

IN EXPLANATION OF THE MEASURES ADOPTED BY
HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT,

FOR GIVING EFFECT TO THE ACT

FOR THE

ABOLITION OF SLAVERY

THROUGHOUT THE BRITISH COLONIES.

PART V.

J A M A I C A.

(1.)

*(In Continuation of the Papers presented in 1835, 1836 and 1837, Nos. 177, 278 of 1835,
166.-I. & II. of 1836, and 521-I. & II. of 1837.)*

1838.

*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
9 March 1838.*

SCHEDULE

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(Y) - Copy of a Report of the Commission of Enquiry into the Working of the

(Z) - Copy of a Report of the Commission of Enquiry into the Working of the

(AA) - Copy of a Report of the Commission of Enquiry into the Working of the

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RELATING TO THE

ABOLITION OF SLAVERY.

SCHEDULE of INSTRUCTIONS addressed by Lord *Glenelg* to the Officers administering the Governments in Her Majesty's Possessions in the West Indies, &c.

(X.)

COPY of a CIRCULAR DESPATCH addressed by Lord *Glenelg* to the Governors of the West India Colonies, &c.

Sir,

Colonial Office, 13 May 1837.

Despatch
(X.)

TRANSACTIONS which have recently taken place in some of the West Indian Islands, whilst under the government of Mr. Light, and which have been brought to my notice by that officer, have led me to attach great importance to the adoption of some means by which negroes quitting a British colony may be protected from the dangers to which they are exposed of being sold into slavery in a foreign colony. It is stated that attempts of this nature have been made, and that the purpose may be effected under the pretext of aiding clandestine emigration; and Crabbe Island, a place without any constituted authorities, and the territorial right to which is in dispute, has been named as the place of most convenient resort for parties engaged in such practices, inasmuch as negroes who have been brought there can be transferred without difficulty to the Spanish Islands; I have therefore to request that you will take the most effectual means in your power, through the agency of the special magistrates, or otherwise, to warn the negroes within your government of the risks which they may run if they should proceed beyond the limits within which British protection can be afforded them.

Mr. Light has suggested, that negroes quitting any British colony should be provided with passports by the local government: I should doubt whether such a precaution would afford any effectual remedy; but if you consider that it would tend to promote the object in view, you will apprise them that passports will, on their application, be issued to them gratuitously by the Governor or Lieutenant-governor of the island to which they belong, which passports will claim protection for them as free British subjects.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

(Y.)

COPY of a CIRCULAR DESPATCH addressed by Lord *Glenelg* to the Governors of the West India Colonies, &c.

Sir,

Downing-street, 1 August 1837.

Despatch
(Y.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for your information, a copy of the Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons, appointed during the last Session, to inquire into the working of the apprenticeship system in the West India Colonies.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

Ordered to be
printed, by The
House of Commons,
12 July 1837.
No. 510.

(Z.)

COPY of a CIRCULAR DESPATCH addressed by Lord *Glenelg* to the
Governors of the West India Colonies, &c.

Despatch
(Z.)
—

Sir,

Downing-street, 12 September 1837.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that Her Majesty's Government have felt it their duty to institute an inquiry into the state of the prisons and workhouses in the West India Colonies.

Captain Pringle, formerly an officer in the Engineers, and who, since his retirement from the army, has been frequently employed by the Government in a civil capacity, has been selected for the purpose of prosecuting such inquiry. This despatch will be delivered to you by Captain Pringle, and I have to signify to you Her Majesty's commands, that you will afford him all the support and assistance in your power, in the performance of the duty with which he is intrusted. Captain Pringle will, on his arrival, communicate to you a copy of his instructions, and I request that you will furnish him, as soon as possible, with a statement of the several prisons and workhouses within your government, with their respective localities, and that you will give such directions to any of the officers of the Government with whom he may have occasion to communicate as will ensure to him their aid and co-operation whenever it may be necessary. It will probably be expedient, in order to facilitate his inquiries, that Captain Pringle should hold a local commission as a magistrate, and I have therefore to desire that you will confer on him such a commission, whether special or ordinary, as may most conduce to the efficiency and success of his mission ; you will also explain to Captain Pringle the nature and extent of the authority with which such commission will invest him ; and I have also to request that you will allow one of the officers of the medical staff to accompany him in his inspection should he require such assistance.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

(AA.)

COPY of a CIRCULAR DESPATCH addressed by Lord *Glenelg* to the
Governors of the West India Colonies, &c.

Despatch
(AA.)
—

Sir,

Downing-street, 13 October 1837.

THE near approach of the period at which the term of apprenticeship of the non-prædial labourers in the West Indies will expire, and the probable reduction at that time of the number of special magistrates, suggests to me the necessity for instructing you to make to each of those gentlemen the following communication.

The entire number of officers serving in this capacity is 155. I am happy in the opportunity of recording my opinion, that in the large majority of cases this body of magistrates have served with exemplary zeal for the public good, and have performed their arduous duty with firmness, ability and moderation ; I therefore look forward with much regret on their account to the period when their present emoluments will cease. As indeed they sought and accepted these appointments with a full knowledge of their temporary nature, any fuller intimation on this subject may appear to be uncalled for. I feel it, however, a duty distinctly to discourage an expectation which I perceived to be entertained by some of them, that it will be in the power of Her Majesty's Government to provide them with employment in some other branch of the public service on the expiration of their present temporary duties. By cherishing this expectation, they might be led to the neglect of that foresight respecting their own future plans of life which, under a more clear view of their real prospects, would be generally exercised by them.

The retrenchment of the public expenditure in every direction in the colonies has greatly abridged the patronage of the Crown ; while it has created a numerous class of candidates for public employment, who, from their previous services, have a strong claim for preference, as vacancies occur in situations similar to those which they have before filled. For this reason I am compelled, however reluctantly,

tantly, to remind the special magistrates that they must look either to their previous professions or to their own resources, on the expiration of the apprenticeship.

I further think it right to observe that, after the 1st of August 1838, a diminution will probably be required in the number of special magistrates; and although no positive rule can be laid down on this subject, the reduction will probably take place at the expense of those gentlemen whose appointments are of the most recent date.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg.*

Despatch
(AA.)

(BB.)

COPY of a CIRCULAR DESPATCH addressed by Lord *Glenelg* to the
Governors of the West India Colonies, &c.

Sir,

Downing-street, 21 October 1837.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith a volume, which has been published by Her Majesty's Government, containing Extracts from the Second Report of the Inspectors of Prisons for the Home District. As the information contained in this book may be beneficially applied to the management of the gaols in the colony under your government, I beg strongly to recommend it for the perusal and attention of yourself and of the public officers who may be charged with the superintendence of the prisons.

Despatch
(BB.)

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg.*

(CC.)

COPY of a CIRCULAR DESPATCH addressed by Lord *Glenelg* to the
Governors of the West India Colonies, &c.

Sir,

Downing-street, 6 November 1837.

THE 1st of August 1838, and the 1st of August 1840, will form important eras in the history of the British West Indies. Hitherto the results of the great experiment of the abolition of slavery have been such as to justify the most sanguine hopes of the authors and advocates of that measure. When every fair deduction is made for the abuses which may have hitherto attended the administration of this law,—abuses which appear to me to have been the almost necessary result of the colonial system as it previously existed, and for which therefore no person acquainted with human nature and with the history of slavery could have been unprepared,—I feel myself entitled on satisfactory evidence to assert, that within a comparatively very short period there has been an improvement in society and an accession to the sum of human happiness, of which history furnishes no other example. Nor is it the least remarkable and gratifying feature in the progress of this great change, that it has been unattended with tumult or commotion, with the overthrow of any political institution, or with the slightest relaxation of the bonds by which the sovereign power and the people at large are connected. On the contrary, there has been a greater respect for the laws, which have afforded more equal protection to the rights of all classes of the community, and, with an increased sense of security, the value of property has augmented, and the foundation has thus been laid for the safe accomplishment of the final transition now so near in prospect.

Despatch
(CC.)

Contemplating with lively gratitude to Divine Providence these results of the wise and generous policy of Her Royal predecessor, and of the Parliament and people of this kingdom, The Queen is deeply anxious that the approaching crisis of the experiment should be met by a deliberate foresight of the difficulties which will then occur, and by a timely preparation to avert them.

In obedience to Her Majesty's commands, I proceed to direct your attention to those topics.

Despatch
(CC.)

The great cardinal principle of the law for the abolition of slavery is, that the apprenticeship of the emancipated slaves is to be immediately succeeded by personal freedom, in that full and unlimited sense of the term in which it is used in reference to the other subjects of the British Crown.

This is the essence of the contract between Great Britain and the colonies. It is the basis of the enactments, whether Parliamentary or colonial, on the subject. From this principle I am persuaded that the colonial legislatures will not desire to depart. If such an attempt were possible, it would be met by the uncompromising resistance of the Government, the Parliament and people of this kingdom.

The freedom to which I refer must of course, however, be that of men living in civil society, enjoying the franchises and performing the duty of citizens. Their privileges cannot be unconnected with restrictions against the abuse of them; for neither in Great Britain nor in any other part of the civilized world can we point at any class of men who are not subjected to laws defining for the common good of society the obligations of all of its members to each other, and to the state collectively. To define what those restrictions shall be in the British West Indies is the problem of which a solution must be found at the close of the apprenticeship.

If nothing be done in preparation for that event, the emancipated slaves will live under the code by which the colonial legislatures have already determined the rights and the duties of the free members of the local societies; but that is a system of laws which, as may be readily shown, is ill adapted to the approaching exigency.

The old slave code was altogether founded on two general maxims,—the first, that the slave was bound to yield implicit obedience to the commands of his owner; the second, that the owner was bound to make due provision for maintaining the life and health of his slave; but with these laws, now happily abrogated, were blended others for the government of freed men, which established innumerable distinctions of the most invidious nature in favour of Europeans and their descendants, and to the prejudice of persons of African birth or origin.

These distinctions are also abolished; still no reader of the West India statute books, even as they now exist, will fail to discover in them the deep traces of the indirect effects of the ancient system of legislation, as it respected both the servile and the emancipated classes. Laws conceived in general terms, that is, embracing free men of every description, and therefore apparently equal, were yet passed with scarcely a disguised reference to a state of society which no longer exists; those laws will operate on the persons who shall attain their freedom in 1838 and 1840 in a manner and to an extent not contemplated when the Acts in question were passed.

Thus, for example, the laws which determine the qualification for the exercise of political franchises, those which relate to vagrancy, to the maintenance of the poor, to police, and to many other subjects, will survive the apprenticeship, but may be found very ill adapted to a state of things in which compulsory labour will be no longer practised. I do not intend to state that this code will in all cases be found to press with undue severity on the emancipated population. In some cases the objections may be of a different nature; but I apprehend that many statutes will require an entirely new sense and new effect, although undergoing no alteration in the letter.

It will, therefore, be necessary that a considerable revision of the colonial codes should take place, to adapt them to the new state of affairs. This is the appropriate duty of the local legislatures, and it is highly important that it should be performed with great circumspection, and in such a manner as, if possible, to prevent the necessity of any collision between the sovereign authority in this kingdom and the local authority in the several colonies.

It is impossible to deprecate too much any thing which should place the proprietary body in an invidious and, apparently, unfriendly relation towards those who are to live by the earnings of manual labour; and I trust that due care will be taken to obviate such a result.

Under these circumstances, I have to convey to you the following instructions, having for their object, first, to ascertain what the law is; and secondly, how it ought to be amended.

With a view to the first of these objects, you will call for the assistance of the law officers of the Crown in your government, directing them to lay before you an answer to the following inquiries.

1st. What

1st. What are the qualifications for the exercise of each of the civil and political franchises existing in the colony?

2d. What are the rules defining the right of admission to schools, to places of public worship, or other institutions maintained at the public expense for the general good of society?

3d. What are the rules determining the obligation to perform militia service?

4th. What, if any, are the legal restraints on the exercise of particular trades, such as publicans, pedlars, porters, boatmen, huxters, &c.

5th. By what rules has the law regulated the mutual rights and duties of employers and servants in husbandry, or in any other kind of handicraft? By what rules are such parties governed in making contracts for future hiring and service for any period either definite or unlimited? By what methods can the performance of such contracts be enforced, or the breach of them punished? In what courts or magistrates is that jurisdiction vested? and what provision exists for the recovery of servants' wages and petty debts?

6th. What classes of persons are entitled to be maintained as destitute poor, and what are the existing provisions on this subject?

7th. What are the rules of law existing in the colony for defining, preventing and punishing vagrancy, and for compelling able-bodied persons to earn their own living?

8th. What part of the public revenues is usually raised by a poll-tax, or by taxes on articles of primary necessity?

9th. What are the public burdens or imposts payable by free persons in the form of actual labour, either for the repair of roads, or for the execution of other public works?

10th. In what respect does the law of the colony differ from that of England in the definition, prevention or punishment of treason, rebellion, insurrection or sedition committed by free persons?

11th. By what rules has provision been made for preventing the unauthorized occupation of lands belonging either to the Crown or to private persons?

12th. Under whose government and superintendence are the prisons, work-houses and houses of correction, and to what extent does the Governor possess authority to correct abuses in their management?

13th. Is there any law requiring the local magistracy to make to the local government periodical reports of the exercise of their authority?

14th. Are any of the local magistracy paid by stipends, and is it in the Governor's power to remove the local magistrates for misconduct?

15th. Is there any public officer whose duty is to prosecute, or to proceed *ex officio* in cases of injuries done to manual labourers of free condition?

16th. Is there any other topic on which the legal rights or obligations of the labouring population, or the provisions for asserting or enforcing them, differ materially from those which exist in this kingdom?

When you shall have received the answer to these inquiries, you will transmit that answer to me, accompanied by your own report as to the measures which it may be proper to take for adapting the law to that state of society which will immediately follow upon the close of the apprenticeship. It will then remain for Her Majesty's Government to consider of the proper course to be taken in those colonies which are subject to the legislative authority of The Queen in Council, and to be recommended to those which possess representative assemblies. I need scarcely add, that I should wish to receive these reports in the most complete form, and with the greatest promptitude which may be found practicable.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg.*

(DD.)

COPY of a CIRCULAR DESPATCH addressed by Lord *Glenelg* to the
Governors of the West India Colonies, &c.

Sir,

Downing-street, 1 December 1837.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of a resolution of the House of Commons, dated the 28th ultimo, calling for "Copies of Returns of all the Children who may have been apprenticed in the Colonies under the provision

Despatch
(DD.)

Despatch
(DD.)

of the Abolition Law ; specifying the Number so apprenticed in each Colony ;" and I have to desire that you will lose no time in causing the Returns required by this resolution to be transmitted to me, in order that they may be laid before the House of Commons.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Glenelg.*

Enclosure in (DD.)

Martis, 28^o die Novembris, 1837.

Encl. in (DD.)

Resolved,—THAT an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, that she will be graciously pleased to give directions that there be laid before this House "Copies of the Returns made of all the Children who may have been apprenticed in the Colonies under the provision of the Abolition Law ; specifying the Number so apprenticed in each Colony."

Ordered,—That the said Address be presented to Her Majesty by such Members of this House as are of Her Majesty's most honourable Privy Council.

(signed) *J. H. Ley,*
Cl. Dom. Com.

(EE.)

COPY of a CIRCULAR DESPATCH addressed by Lord *Glenelg* to the
Governors of the West India Colonies, &c.

Despatch
(EE.)

Sir,

Downing-street, 15 December 1837.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the enclosed copy of a memorial, recently presented to Her Majesty's Government, praying for the early abolition of the system of negro apprenticeship in the colonies, and deprecating the appointment of a Committee of either House of Parliament for the purpose of inquiring into this subject ; together with a copy of the answer which, by my directions, has been returned to this memorial.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Glenelg.*

Enclosure in (EE.)

COPY of a MEMORIAL addressed to HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT, relative to the
System of NEGRO APPRENTICESHIP.

My Lord,

17 November 1837.

Encl. in (EE.)

WE avail ourselves of the favour which we have asked of your Lordship, and which in the midst of great pressing and public duties has been so promptly and courteously conceded to us, to appear before you as delegates from all parts of the United Kingdom, to represent the feelings and wishes of a vast body of Her Majesty's faithful and loyal subjects, on a question of vital importance and interest, which calls for immediate and most serious attention.

We beg to assure your Lordship, that, in common with the nation at large, we regard slavery in every form as a monstrous evil, directly opposed to the spirit of the British constitution and to all the principles of our holy religion ; and that we have adopted, and resolve to redeem the pledge which was contained in a memorial presented to the Right honourable Earl Grey and his colleagues by a body of delegates, who assembled in this metropolis in the year 1833, and expressed in the following unequivocal terms : " We feel bound, publicly and emphatically, to declare that while slavery obtains in any form, however modified and however sanctioned, we will never relax from our efforts, nor swerve from our purpose to exert that influence which we may collectively or individually possess, to effect by all legitimate means its immediate and entire abolition."

We, your Lordship's memorialists, are fully and painfully convinced, by evidence of a character authentic and indubitable, of which a large portion is derived from official documents, that slavery in all its essential features, and in some respects under aggravated circumstances, still exists in the British colonies ; that the principles of the Imperial Act, passed avowedly for its extinction, and to effect the emancipation of the negroes, for which the immense sum of twenty millions was paid, have been systematically nullified, and its benevolent intentions grievously and shamefully defeated by the legislatures and special magistracy of the colonies, on whom its execution has been devolved.

We respectfully represent to your Lordship, that the result of this experiment accords with the obvious dictates of sound policy and the immutable principles of eternal rectitude, and confirms the impressive lessons of all past history, that slavery is an evil which no legislative

lative enactments can effectually ameliorate, and nothing short of its utter extinction can remedy; and that the apprenticeship system, like all other modifications of crime, has demonstrated the absolute hopelessness of reconciling right and wrong, of combining light and darkness, while it warns us against any further perpetration of evil, under the presumption that good may ensue.

But we refer with a confidence, which is not weakened by the slightest misgiving, to the satisfactory results with which the measure of complete emancipation has been attended in the islands of Antigua and Bermuda, and we anticipate the same peaceful and prosperous results should a similar course be adopted through the entire range of our colonial possessions. If we have any fears, it is not from the bestowment of "just and rational, of full and impartial liberty," but its denial to any class and portion of the negro race; and the greatest dangers, in our apprehension, which menace the colonies are those which would spring from the enfranchisement of one section of the apprenticed negroes, while another, and still larger portion, men of like passions, joined to them by natural ties, and suffering with them under equal wrongs, are left to all the bitterness of prolonged, and thus aggravated, bondage; thousands of them in the different colonies being originally of the number of those who, as non-prædials, were destined to obtain their freedom in 1838, but who are now transferred, by the fraud and cupidity of interested masters, to the less favoured class of apprentices.

We beg to assure your Lordship, that throughout the United Kingdom, so far as the actual state of the colonies has been made known, there is one indignant feeling of displeasure and disgust at the shameless manner in which the negro population are treated by colonial legislation, and by special magistrates and planters. After having paid so many millions, the people feel that the negroes in our colonies have become, not their property indeed, but their charge, the very wards and children of the nation, and that it is now more than ever the duty of the country to protect them from outrage and injustice, and to take care that they shall be admitted at once and fully to all the high and cherished privileges of the British constitution.

In every instance where the public has been informed that the Act, which was intended to bring relief and benefit to the slaves, and professing to invest them with the rights of freemen, has been abused to increase their burdens and aggravate their sufferings, it has occasioned the most grievous mortification and disappointment, and has aroused a more earnest and unappeasable demand for immediate, entire and unconditional freedom to this injured race of men; and this feeling, we beg to assure your Lordship, is rapidly and universally spreading throughout the reflecting, religious and influential classes of the British community.

All these and other considerations, founded on the policy as well as the justice and humanity of the measure, influence us to express to your Lordship our strong, unanimous and fervent desire that your Lordship and the Members of Her Majesty's Government will take the earliest possible period for introducing a measure to bring the system of negro apprenticeship in the colonies to an end; and if it cannot be effected before that time, we respectfully suggest that the 1st day of August 1838, being the day already appointed for the emancipation of the non-prædials, would be a most appropriate time for that great object.

We further beg to state to your Lordship, that the proof and evidence for the justification of such a measure, if it ought not rather to rest on the eternal principles of justice and truth, and the solid basis of our own free constitution, are, in our opinion, already made so abundant and complete by official and Parliamentary documents as to render any committee of inquiry in either House of Parliament unnecessary; that we should deprecate such a course of proceeding as calculated only to serve the purpose of mischievous delay, to defeat the ends of justice, and to prolong the misery of the negro; and we do, therefore, most earnestly and respectfully entreat your Lordship to resist such a proposal.

Be assured, my Lord, that the reign of our youthful and beloved Sovereign, already so auspiciously commenced, and giving such bright promise of coming felicity and prosperity to a loyal nation, would receive an ornament of grace, and gain imperishable glory, by such an act of humanity and justice to that unhappy portion of Her Majesty's subjects who have so long groaned and suffered, with unexampled patience, in our colonies.

On their behalf the sympathies of the females of the United Kingdom are already awakened; more than 600,000 of whom have attached their names to addresses about to be presented to Her Majesty, and they will link with them the generous and amiable sympathies of the British Queen, whose own sex are doomed to a still larger share of suffering than ours from that system, the utter and immediate extinction of which we thus strenuously seek.

My Lord, we are very respectfully yours,
(signed, on behalf of all the Delegates, by)

R. Harward, Chairman.

REPLY.

Sir,

Downing-street, 27 November 1837.

I AM directed by Lord Glenelg to acknowledge the receipt of the memorial dated the 17th instant, presented by you and other gentlemen to his Lordship on the 18th, expressing a desire that Her Majesty's Government will take the earliest possible period for introducing a

measure

Encl. in (EE.)
—

measure into Parliament to bring the system of negro apprenticeship in the colonies to an end, and further deprecating the appointment of any Committee of either House of Parliament for the purpose of inquiring into the working of the present system; I am to acquaint you, in reply, that Lord Glenelg, after an anxious and minute attention during the last two years and a half to the details of this subject, and after a careful consideration of all the information respecting it to which his Lordship has had access, does not feel that there are sufficient grounds to justify Her Majesty's Government in proposing to Parliament to make so essential an alteration in the Act of 1833 as that which is desired by the memorialists. His Lordship is further of opinion, that, however desirable it might be that the apprenticeship should be terminated by Acts of the colonial legislatures before the period fixed by law for its expiration, the proposal by the Government to the British Parliament of a measure for its immediate abolition would, without tending to shorten the duration of the present system, have the effect of producing irritation, excitement and disappointment throughout the West India colonies. It would thereby, in Lord Glenelg's judgment, present a serious obstacle to the success of the constant and unremitting endeavours of Her Majesty's Government to secure to the apprenticed population the enjoyment of the immediate rights to which they are legally entitled, and to ensure the ultimate termination of the apprenticeship under circumstances the most favourable to their full possession and exercise of unqualified freedom. In the prosecution of this object, Her Majesty's Government will not hesitate, in case of necessity, to apply to Parliament for such additional powers as may be required to strengthen the hands of the executive government in the discharge of the arduous and responsible duty with which they are intrusted.

With respect to the desire expressed by the memorialists, that Her Majesty's Government should resist any proposal for the appointment of a Committee of either House of Parliament to inquire into the working of the present system, I am to inform you that Her Majesty's Government have, in the two last Sessions of Parliament, assented to the appointment of a Committee of the House of Commons on this subject, on the motion of Mr. Buxton, and that the inquiries of the last Committee having been interrupted by the unexpected termination of the Session, a short Report was presented to the House of Commons, which appears to have been unanimously agreed to, in which it is recommended that a Select Committee should be appointed to pursue this inquiry in the next Session of Parliament. On the ground of this recommendation, and of the admitted obligation on the Government to afford the fullest information which Parliament may require on so important a subject, Lord Glenelg directs me to state that Her Majesty's Government could not, in his opinion, be justified in refusing their assent to the appointment of such a Committee during the present Session, if a motion with that object should be made in either House of Parliament.

I have, &c.

Captain Harward, R. N.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *George Grey.*

J A M A I C A.

— 2. —

CIRCULARS TO SPECIAL MAGISTRATES.

—No. 1.—

(No. 152.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K. C. B., to
Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 1.

My Lord,

King's House, 29 July 1837.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for your Lordship's information, copies of all circulars to custodes and special magistrates, issued since the 11th of May last, for their guidance in reference to their duties connected with the apprenticed population.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Lionel Smith*.

No. 784, 13 May.
— 815, 16 —
— 818, 16 —
— 892, 31 —
— 897, 2 June.
— 950, 10 —
— 1028, 24 —
— 1085, 15 July.
— 1120, 22 —
— 1561, 29 —
— 1562, — —

Enclosures in No. 1.

Circular, No. 784.

Sir,

I AM desired by the Governor to acquaint you, that he considers it very desirable that when the superiors of houses of correction notify to the supposed employers of apprentices committed to those establishments as runaways that such apprentices are under detention, they should request the employers to inform them, in reply, whether the apprentices in question are really absent from the property or not. The object of this suggestion is, not to detain apprentices longer in custody than the law permits, but to prevent their being prematurely liberated upon the application of parties who are not their lawful owners.

I have, &c.

(signed) *C. H. Darling*, Sec.Enclosures in
No. 1.

Circular, No. 815.

Sir,

The King's House, 16 May 1837.

THE Governor having in some instances observed the severe effects of corporal punishment upon apprenticed labourers (not in consequence of the illegality of the amount of punishment awarded, but of its application to offenders who had been subjected to previous flogging), I am directed by his Excellency to repeat the injunction, which has been so strongly urged upon the special magistracy from the very commencement of the apprenticeship system, and pointedly impressed upon them in numerous individual instances by his Excellency himself, that the use of corporal punishment should be restricted as much as possible, and in fact rigidly confined to offences of a disgraceful or highly aggravated nature. I am further to desire, that it may on no account be inflicted on offenders who are not entirely recovered from the effect of previous punishment, and that you take care that, in all cases, the apprentices are perfectly cured before they are removed from the hospital, and required to resume their work.

His Excellency is induced to advert the more strongly to this subject, from observing, that while the total amount of punishment throughout the colony, as collected from the returns of the special magistrates, is considerably less than it was during the earlier part of his administration, the amount of corporal punishments has not decreased in a corresponding ratio. His Excellency is, however, gratified to find, by the returns for the month of February last, (the latest period to which they are compiled) that there was a considerable decrease of this description of punishment, as contrasted with the returns of the preceding month. He confidently trusts that this desirable diminution will steadily continue; and he relies upon your zealous exertions (as far as your means extend) to maintain the industry and contentment which now so generally prevail, and which can never be effected by an injudicious recourse to a mode of punishment, to be resorted to at any time with the greatest caution and discrimination, but totally inapplicable for the enforcement of those objects among a labouring population, fast passing into perfect freedom, and with whom, therefore, every other incentive to good conduct should be employed, rather than the dread of a degrading punishment, to which they must shortly cease to be subjected.

I have, &c.

(signed) *C. H. Darling*, Sec.

JAMAICA.

Circular, No. 818.

Sir,

The King's House, 16 May 1837.

THE Governor being strongly impressed with the expediency of establishing in all the houses of correction one uniform system of treadmill punishment, I am directed to recommend, for the adoption of the magistrates of the parish of , under the fourth clause of the Act 5 Will. 4, c. 8, the following rules.

1. That no prisoner be worked on the treadmill for a longer period than 10 minutes at one spell, besides the usual allowance of time for breakfast and dinner.
2. That all treadmill punishments be divided into classes: the first-class spells to be of 10 minutes' duration, the second of eight minutes, and the third of five minutes.
3. That no female quick with child be subjected to punishment on the treadmill; no child under 14 years of age; and no aged person above 60 years old.
4. That the superior of the house of correction be required to keep a record of treadmill punishments, according to the following form.

Name and Quality of Offender, whether Apprentice or otherwise.	By whom employed, if an Apprentice.	By whom Committed.	Offence.	Punishment awarded, and in what Class worked.	Date of Commitment.	When Discharged.	Remarks.

5. That the medical attendant have the power of directing the removal of a prisoner from one class of punishment to another less severe, if he shall see cause to do so, on account of the sickness or infirmity of such prisoner.

6. His Excellency feels confident that the legislature will embody these regulations into a law in their next session, and in the meantime, he anxiously trusts that the magistrates will give effect to them in their several parishes.

To the Custos.

I have, &c.
(signed) C. H. Darling, Sec.

Circular, No. 892.

Sir,

The King's House, 31 May 1837.

I AM desired by the Governor to request you will transmit, for his Excellency's information, a return of all properties in your district having more than 40 apprentices attached, with the names of the respective proprietors, attornies, and overseers, according to the following form; viz.—

Name of Property.	Name of Proprietor, and whether absent or not.	Name of Attorney.	Name of Overseer.
(State in this column whether a sugar or coffee property or pen.)			

2. In the event of any property in your district falling into the hands of a new proprietor, or under the management of a new attorney, you will report the same when it occurs, for his Excellency's information.

Special Justice.

I have, &c.
(signed) C. H. Darling, Sec.

Circular, No. 897.

Sir,

The King's House, 2 June 1837.

I AM desired by the Governor to acquaint you, that he has reason to believe that the police force and maroons are actively employed in apprehending apprentices upon mere suspicion of their being implicated in proceedings intended to disturb the public peace. I am, therefore,

therefore, to convey his Excellency's commands that you immediately make known to the magistrates of the parish of _____ that such a practice is both mischievous and unjust, and that he strictly cautions them against calling out the police, or applying for the services of the maroons, except upon well-grounded information, and under a regular warrant.

I have, &c.

Custos.

(signed) *C. H. Darling, Sec.*

Circular, No. 950.

Sir,

The King's House, 10 June 1837.

THE Secretary of State having called for certain information relative to the working of the apprenticeship system, with a view to the same being laid before Parliament, I am desired by the Governor to enclose the blank form of a return, which you will be pleased to fill up, and return to me at your earliest convenience.

You will also be pleased to transmit a similar return in future with your quarterly reports, made up for each quarter, in order to obviate the necessity of again calling for a return embracing such an extent of time as that you are now required to furnish.

With your quarterly report for the present quarter, it will of course only be necessary that you furnish a return for the month of June, as that now required will be made up to the 31st of May, inclusive.

I have, &c.

Mr. Special Justice.

Circular, No. 1028.

Sir,

The King's House, 24 June 1837.

HEREWITH you will receive a scale of labour for the parish of _____, in which your district is situated.

The Governor has every reason to believe that this scale has been framed with great diligence and care, and that it is calculated upon a knowledge of what may be fairly demanded from an able-bodied prædial labourer, during a working day of nine hours' duration.

The object which has been gained, as his Excellency confidently trusts, by the formation of this scale is twofold: first, as affording a guide to the special justice in all cases of complaints for neglect or insufficiency of labour; and, secondly, as establishing the principle upon which task-work will be regulated, to the general adoption of which his Excellency attaches the greatest importance.

It is hardly necessary to point out to you, that when resorted to as a guide in cases of insufficiency of labour, it will be your duty to bear in mind, that it is calculated for an able-bodied labourer, and that you should therefore satisfy yourself that the party complained against may be fairly classed as such, and that in the particular case before you there are no extraordinary impediments to the performance of the quantum of daily labour established by the scale.

When employed as the basis of task-work, you will be aware that the contracts formed upon it must be perfectly voluntary on both sides. In some parishes the task established upon the scales has been completed before one o'clock in the day, and in many others considerably before the expiration of the nine hours appointed for labour; while, therefore, it is of course your duty to enforce the proper quantity of labour on the one hand, it is equally incumbent upon you to see that, on the other, the apprentice receives the full benefit of his industry, by having at his own disposal the remaining period of time, whenever he may have completed his daily work before the expiration of the legal hours of labour.

In all cases where you may be called upon to ratify agreements based upon the scale, you will therefore make it your duty to ascertain that this principle is distinctly recognised by the employer.

Considering it of the greatest importance to the future welfare of the island that a system of voluntary labour, mutually satisfactory to employer and labourer, should be promoted as much as possible, his Excellency earnestly calls upon you to encourage its adoption by every means in your power.

If in any instance a complaint shall be made that the quantum of labour assigned under any of the numerous heads detailed in the scale is more than can fairly be performed, it will be your duty to obtain the best evidence in your power, both of practical planters, and of the head men or intelligent apprentices upon estates, and transmit the same to his Excellency, who will not fail to take the necessary steps for setting the disputed point at rest.

I have, &c.

(signed) *C. H. Darling, Secretary.*

Circular, No. 1085.

Sir,

The King's House, 15 July 1837.

IN reference to the Circular, dated King's House, 24 June 1837, No. 1028, it is clearly to be understood, that when the apprentices resist the late established scale of labour, as being beyond or greater than what they have been accustomed to perform, the special magis-

JAMAICA.

trates in all references are to resort to the quantity of work which the apprentices had before been accustomed to for the day's labour of nine hours, and they are not by any means to compel any greater quantity than what had been before customary.

Special Justice.

I have, &c.

(signed) *S. R. Warren, Sec.*

Circular, No. 1120.

The King's House, 22 July 1837.

COMPLAINTS continuing to be laid before the Governor that the magistrates in committing apprentices to prison authorize or permit the gaol or house of correction officers to put such prisoners in the bilboes or chains, under pretence of their better security, and before trial and conviction of any offence, notwithstanding that his Excellency, at his late inspection of the prisons, strictly prohibited this unlawful practice, his Excellency is now pleased to call on the custodes to warn all magistrates and others offending herein that they will be prosecuted for any and every instance of this violent and illegal conduct in future.

If the gaols are not secure, it is the duty of the magistrates to apply to the parish authorities to make them so; but neither the Abolition Act, or any other law, can warrant the punishment of men before trial and conviction, and it would be better that 50 should escape than the law be violated even in a single instance.

By Command.

(signed) *S. R. Warren, Sec.*

To Custodes and Special Magistrates.

Circular, No. 1561.

Sir,

The King's House, 29 July 1837.

IN all cases where special magistrates have to complain of the unjust, severe, or unkind treatment of apprentices by overseers, from whose general conduct 19 complaints out of 20 now originate, they will be so good as to accompany such reports by information of facts, stating the names of attorneys employing such overseers in this country, or where there is no local attorney, the name of the proprietor or parties owning the property in England which such overseer may be wholly in charge of.

By Command.

(signed) *S. R. Warren.*

To Special Justice.

Circular, No. 1562.

Sir,

The King's House, 29 July 1837.

DOUBTS may arise whether the apprentices are to have the 1st of August as a holiday or not.

There being no positive law to determine the question, I beg to recommend you, if this instruction can reach you in time, to propose the adoption of one general rule in your parish, either of granting or withholding the day, according as the legislature intended, so that no comparison of unequal treatment, and consequent dissatisfaction, may arise out of a different practice by masters towards their apprentices or the overseers.

To the Custos.

(signed) *Lionel Smith.*

— No. 2. —

(No. 148.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B., to
Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 2.

My Lord,

King's House, 28 July 1837.

Circular 1120,
22 July 1837.
See Despatch, No.
152, of the 29th
July.

6.

REFERRING your Lordship to my circular against putting apprentices in bilboes or in chains before trial and conviction, I enclose the acknowledgment of my order by several of the custodes or senior magistrates (all not being yet received), and I am persuaded this oppressive practice will be effectually prevented in future.

It is one of the hateful remains of slavery abuses, many of which can only be overcome by time, and a watchful regard to the laws.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Lionel Smith.*

Enclosures

Enclosures in No. 2.

(No. 1.)

Sir,

Peace-office, Portland, 25 July 1837.

I AM directed by Richard C. King, Esq., the senior magistrate for this parish, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 1120, dated 22d July instant, and to state in reply thereto, for his Excellency's information, that he has made the most diligent inquiries of the officers of the house of correction, and of the magistrates of this parish, and is happy in being able to assure his Excellency that there has not been any instance of prisoners having been put in the bilboes or chains, under pretence of their better security, either before trial or after conviction of any offences, since the 1st day of August 1834.

I have, &c.

S. R. Warren, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *Robert C. Thomson,*
Depy Clerk Peace.

Enclosures in
No. 2.

(No. 2.)

Sir,

Gilnock Hall, St. Elizabeth's, 25 July 1837.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your circular, No. 1120, to which I shall give every publicity.

Allow me at the same time to solicit your informing his Excellency the Governor, that I am not aware a single instance has occurred of a prisoner in the gaol or house of correction of this parish having been confined either in the bilboes or chains before conviction.

Captain Warren,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Dⁿ Robertson,* Custos.

(No. 3.)

Sir,

Westmoreland, 25 July 1837.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your circular, No. 1120, dated 22d instant, a copy of which I have had transmitted to each magistrate in this parish, as also to the superintendents of the prison and house of correction, and by the latter to be entered into the magistrates' visiting books kept at the respective establishments; and I have most particularly warned all the magistrates and officers of the institutions of the consequences which will follow the slightest departure from his Excellency the Governor's instructions concerning the good management of gaols and houses of correction.

And should any illegal act be committed in these institutions, it will be my duty to communicate the same to you, for the information of the Governor.

I have, &c.

S. R. Warren, Esq.

(signed) *Thos. Moore.*

(No. 4.)

Sir,

Lucea, 25 July 1837.

IN the absence of his Honor the Custos, I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your circular of the 22d instant, No. 1120, calling the attention of the magistrates to certain abuses alleged to exist in the gaol discipline of this parish towards prisoners confined therein for trial.

I beg to state, for the information of his Excellency, that should those illegal proceedings to which you allude be in operation in any of the parochial gaols of the island, that they are not, nor have they been, countenanced by the authorities of this parish.

S. R. Warren, Esq.
Gov. Sec. Office, Spanish Town.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Alex^r Campbell.*

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(No. 5.)

Sir,

St. Thomas in the Vale, 27 July 1837.

I BEG leave to acknowledge receipt of your circular of 22d instant, No. 1120, and shall immediately cause his Excellency's sentiments, with regard to committing apprentices to prison to be made known to the magistrates of the parish.

I have, &c.

Captain Warren, Govt Secy,
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *Geo. W. Hamilton.*

(No. 6.)

EXTRACT of a LETTER from *Thos. M'Cornock*, Esq. Custos, to *S. R. Warren*, Esq.
Government Secretary, dated Golden Grove, Port Morant, 26 July 1837.

"I HAVE never heard that what is mentioned in your circular of the 22d has been done in this precinct; but I sent a copy of it immediately to the clerk of the peace, for the information of all concerned, and added, 'I believe what is therein alluded to is never done in this precinct; but you will caution the keepers of both gaol and house of correction, here and in St. David's, not to transgress the law on any account.'"

— No. 3. —

(No. 143.)

No. 3. COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B.

Sir,

Downing-street, 15 Sept. 1837.

I HAVE received your despatches, No. 152, of the 29th July last, and No. 148, of the 28th of the same month; the one transmitting for my information copies of all your recent circulars to the custodes and special magistrates with reference to the apprenticed population; the other enclosing letters addressed to you by several of the custodes or senior magistrates, with reference to your circular against putting apprentices in bilboes or chains before trial and conviction.

I have read the circulars with much pleasure, as affording most satisfactory evidence of the zeal, vigilance, and humanity with which you superintend the working of the present system. I confidently anticipate that your exertions will have a powerful effect in suppressing what you justly describe as "the hateful remains of slavery abuses," but of which I earnestly hope all traces will ere long have been eradicated. In your anxious desire and enlightened efforts to accomplish this great end I repose the fullest confidence, and it will afford Her Majesty's Government the greatest satisfaction to find that your endeavours are met by the cordial co-operation of the legislature of Jamaica.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg.*

— No. 4. —

(No. 10.)

No. 4. COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B., to
Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Spanish Town, 16 January 1838.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copies of all circulars to custodes and special magistrates issued since the 22d July last, for their guidance in reference to their duties connected with the apprenticed population, which I trust will meet your Lordship's approbation.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Lionel Smith.*

No. 1161, 29 July.
1197, 2 August.
1212, 10 —
1245, 19 —
1464, 21 Oct.
1516, 10 Nov.
1612, 8 Dec.
1670, 29 —
1671, — —

SLAVERY IN THE BRITISH COLONIES.

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Enclosures in No. 4.

JAMAICA.

Circular, No. 1161.

Enclosures in
No. 4.

Sir,

The King's House, 29 July 1837.

IN all cases where magistrates have to complain of the unjust, severe or unkind treatment of apprentices by overseers, from whose general conduct, 19 complaints out of 20 now originate, they will be so good as to accompany such reports by information of facts, stating the names of attorneys employing such overseers in this country, or, where there is no local attorney, the name of the proprietor or parties owning the property in England which such overseer may be wholly in charge of.

Mr. Special Justice.

By command.

(signed) S. R. Warren, Sec.

Circular, No. 1197.

Sir,

The King's House, 2 August 1837.

IN all magistrates' courts of valuation on apprentices in future, the special magistrate, before commencing proceedings, is directed to ascertain from the general magistrates associated with him, whether they are agreed to allow a deduction upon the extreme value of any such apprentices of one-third for contingencies, which has been the principle formerly adopted, but lately generally denied.

2. If the associated magistrates will not agree to this just deduction, the court need not proceed; but the special magistrate will at once report the valuation as inconclusive, and then give notice to have other magistrates selected, who will agree to the usual deduction for contingencies.

I have, &c.

Special Justice.

(signed) S. R. Warren, Sec.

Circular, No. 1212.

Sir,

The King's House, 10 August 1837.

YOUR own business and the Governor's time are both too much interrupted from the nature of the disputes to which your duties expose you.

2. The overseer and the attorney frequently complain together on the same case, and thus create double trouble.

3. The person in actual charge of a property, who is alone liable to the law, when brought to an account, refers to his immediate superior, who, absent, can have no personal knowledge of the facts, yet both join in the same complaint or remonstrance. This is unreasonable towards the magistrates.

4. In future, therefore, you will consider the person actually in charge of a property, and lawfully exercising authority over the apprentices, the only person responsible for their treatment in their apprenticeship duties on estates, and you are not in future to enter into correspondence with any intermediate or superior authority, but refer such parties to the Governor.

5. It is thus expected you may never be brought in collision with more than one responsible authority in any one dispute.

I have, &c.

Special Justice.

(signed) S. R. Warren, Sec.

Circular, No. 1245.

Sir,

Spanish Town, 19 August 1837.

You will be so good as to send in a return of all valuations from the 1st November 1836, made in the district under your charge. This is to include all valuations, whether concluded or not concluded, and to specify the amount of valuation; whether the sums have been paid and the parties released, or whether remaining unpaid, distinguishing the classes of the apprentices, and particularizing the dates of the appraisements, and the estates to which the apprentices respectively belonged.

2. As this return is required to be transmitted to the Secretary of State, you will lose no time in complying with this order, and you will be pleased to bring down the date of the return to the 31st day of July inclusive.

I am, &c.

Mr. Special Justice.

(signed) S. R. Warren, Sec.

Circular, No. 1464.

Sir,

The King's House, 21 October 1837.

HIS Excellency the Governor directs that you will make, with the least possible delay, a return of all the plantations, pens, and settlements in your district on which the eight hours' system of labour has been adhered to.

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B 4

You

JAMAICA.

2. You will particularize whether such adherence has been by mutual arrangement between the master and apprentice, or whether it has been persisted in, as being in conformity with the law; and you will enumerate the plantations, pens, and settlements in the same district on which the nine hours' system of work prevails at the present time.

_____, Esq.
Special Justice.

I have, &c.
(signed) S. R. Warren, Sec.

Circular, No. 1516.

Sir,

10 November 1837.

HIS Excellency the Governor having observed by the public advertisements that justices, who are not of the special commission, have frequently committed apprentices to the house of correction as deserters and vagrants, contrary to the prohibition of the 21st clause of the Abolition Act, which assigns exclusive jurisdiction over apprentices to special justices of the peace only; directs that all advertisements by the superintendents of houses of correction, purporting to be of apprentices in custody, shall set forth the name of the committing magistrate, and the date of the committal in each warrant respectively.

2. To guard against any infringement of the law, the course a person should pursue when apprehending a vagrant or deserter, either under the 27th or 39th clauses of the Abolition Act, is to put such vagrant or deserter in the hand of the police, or into the hand of the plantation constable.

3. It will be the duty of these persons to obtain the necessary warrant from the special justice of the district for committing the vagrant or deserter to the house of correction to be claimed.

4. As the 17th clause of the Act in Aid gives to the police a fee of 20s. for apprehending a known and described deserter, and the workhouse law, mile money and caption fee to any other person for apprehending vagrant apprentices, there is no excuse for the parties detaining deserters, not seeking the special justice, and acting by his authority.

I have, &c.
(signed) S. R. Warren, Sec.

Circular, No. 1612.

Sir,

The King's House, 8 December 1837.

CAPTAIN PRINGLE having received a commission from his Excellency the Governor, empowering him to inquire and examine into all matters connected with the state of the gaols and houses of correction, &c., and the prison discipline of the island, I am directed to request you to give the necessary directions to all concerned, that this gentleman may have free access to all places of confinement, &c., within your jurisdiction, and his Excellency is confident you will be disposed to afford him such information and facilities in the progress of his inquiry as he may desire.

I have, &c.
S. R. Warren, Sec.

Circular, No. 1670.

Sir,

The King's House, 29 December 1837.

THE Governor again calls the attention of special magistrates to give all the encouragement they possibly can to the system of task-work, on mutual agreement of masters and apprentices.

I am, &c.
(signed) S. R. Warren, Sec.

Circular, No. 1671.

Sir,

HIS Excellency the Governor having had brought under his notice instances in which women in a state of pregnancy have been sentenced to penal labour in the house of correction, and in which delivery in child-birth has occurred during the period of their sentence, or immediately after their release from prison, under circumstances of aggravated suffering, as well as privation, directs me to inform you, that in all instances in which delinquents shall be brought before you perceptibly in a state of pregnancy, or in which it shall be pleaded that pregnancy renders the punishment inappropriate, the magistrate shall in no instance send such persons to the house of correction, but shall devise some occupation for them during their extra hours on the plantation, suited to their state of infirmity; and I am to inform you, that any culpable disregard of this order will be a reason with his Excellency for the immediate removal of the negligent magistrate from the special commission.

I have, &c.
(signed) S. R. Warren, Sec.

3.

POLICE ACT.

— No. 5. —

(No. 47.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K. C. B., to Lord *Glenelg*.

JAMAICA.

No. 5.

No. 3239.
Vide App. No. 1.

My Lord,

The King's House, 30 December 1836.

I HAVE the honour to enclose a copy of the new Police Bill ; it formed a subject of long and various discussion in the House of Assembly ; and though it is not so good a Bill as I would wish, I was obliged to accept it, the old Bill expiring on the last day of this year.

It has effected a considerable reduction in the force, that is, in the establishment ; but not material in reducing actual number, since the establishment was never complete.

I found it quite impracticable to get a more permanent Bill passed.

I think I shall be able to provide for most exigencies by the present Bill ; and certain it is, no system could be worse than that which formed the original police at a most enormous and unnecessary expense.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Lionel Smith*.

— No. 6. —

(No. 134.)

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K. C. B., dated Downing-street, 2 September 1837.

No. 6.

THE Acts of the last session of the legislature of Jamaica, and your despatches explanatory of them, have engaged the serious attention of Her Majesty's Government, and I proceed to announce to you the course which will be taken respecting them by Her Majesty in Council. I have postponed this despatch to the latest possible period, in the hope of receiving the usual printed copy of the Acts of the year, for you will readily understand that the difficulty of examining this voluminous mass of statutes is greatly enhanced by the circumstance of their reaching me in the form of manuscript, written in a close and crowded character, on paper of the largest size, in which many clerical errors occur, and of which it is impossible, without much labour and delay, to multiply copies for reference to the other departments of the Government. I am prevented by this circumstance from referring, on this occasion, to the Acts in question, by their proper divisions into chapters and sections. These impediments to an earlier decision are mentioned, not with the slightest intention of imputing blame to any of the officers of your government, still less to yourself, but in order that your authority or influence may be exercised to secure the printing of the statutes of the island with greater promptitude hereafter.

The Act, No. 3239, for organizing a Police, contains a clause by which it is in substance provided, that it shall be the duty of the police to apprehend every person having in his possession any quantity of produce, or any canes, wood or grass, who shall not be able to produce a permit from the proprietor of the estate on which the produce was grown, or to show that he has honestly become possessed of such property. The police are then to carry the person thus apprehended before any magistrate of the parish, who is to associate with himself another magistrate. The two justices are jointly to examine into the matter, and on conviction may adjudge the parties to a fine of 20*l.*, and in failure of payment, to labour in the house of correction for any time not exceeding two months.

Now, I understand that it is no uncommon practice in Jamaica to give to the labourers wood and grass, or the privilege of cutting them, in commutation for some of their regular allowances ; a practice to be mentioned with commendation, as tending to encourage the people to honest industry in the pursuit of a

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petty traffic, advantageous to them, and convenient to the society of which they form a part. To obtain on every occasion the necessary written permission for this purpose is at least an onerous obligation, and may often subject the labourer to the capricious and unreasonable refusal of the party whom he serves. Yet under this Act the complaint of the employer must be entertained and decided by any two justices, whether in the special commission of the peace or not. If, therefore, there should be any person desirous to inflict upon an apprenticed labourer punishments of greater severity than would be imposed by the special magistrate, an opportunity is here afforded for that evasion of the spirit of the Slavery Abolition Act. An offence which is really an infringement of plantation discipline would be cognizable before a different tribunal from that to which the law has intrusted the superintendence of the conduct of the apprentices in that relation of life.

It may, I am aware, be answered, that the offence against which this enactment is pointed is committed, not against plantation discipline, but against the general laws of police, affecting alike the whole population, and is therefore properly cognizable by the ordinary magistrates. To that answer I should reply, that not only during the continuance of slavery were these Acts regarded as an infringement of plantation discipline, but that they were viewed in that light by the legislature of Jamaica so recently as the year 1836, when the Police Act conferred this jurisdiction on the special magistracy alone. The change in the law which has been silently introduced in the Act under consideration is therefore equally at variance with the recent and with the ancient views of the colonial legislature. I regard it as the more objectionable, because it is an alteration in a statute which certainly ought to have been enacted for the whole term of the apprenticeship. If the Assembly will not concur in passing a permanent Police Act, Her Majesty's Government must, at least, protest in the most decided terms against the introduction into the annual Acts of that nature of any clause impairing their value. The periodical revival of this measure should not be connected with any such stipulation on the part of the Assembly.

You will, therefore, have the goodness to understand yourself as placed by Her Majesty under a distinct prohibition against assenting to the revival of the Police Act, if it shall be tendered for your acceptance with a repetition of the clause to which I have referred; or if it shall contain any other clause foreign to its proper object, or opposed in any degree whatever to the principles of the Act of Parliament for the Abolition of Slavery.

I earnestly hope that the local legislature will perceive and acknowledge the necessity of meeting the reasonable expectations of the people of this country and of Parliament on this subject, and that in their next session they will pass a Police Act to which no valid objection can be taken. I cherish this expectation so confidently, that I will not advert to a consideration of the course which it might be right to adopt on a contrary supposition.

— No. 7. —

(No. 233.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B., to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Spanish Town, 20 December 1837.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship, that I granted the application of the House of Assembly for an adjournment from the 18th instant to the 20th of February, in order to enable the members to be present on their properties during the usual holidays.

Many Bills have been passed at this first meeting of the Sessions, the most important of which, the new Police Bill, I have now the honour to enclose, your Lordship being aware that the old Bill expires on the 31st instant.

Your Lordship's objections to the last Police Law, in your despatch, No. 134, of 2d September 1837, were duly communicated to the House, but, I am sorry to say, through several days of animated discussion, they finally persisted in maintaining the former clause, which subjects parties apprehended, in possession of wood or grass without a permit, to be carried before any two justices of the peace, who were empowered to try and punish the offence, whether committed by an apprentice

No. 1.
Copy of new Police
Act.
Vide App. No. 2.

apprentice or otherwise, and thus violating the Abolition Law, giving exclusive jurisdiction to the special magistrates over the apprentice.

In these circumstances, Her Majesty's legislative council returned the Bill for amendment.

On its being rejected, I went into privy council for advice. I read your Lordship's instructions in No. 134, and particularly impressed upon them that I was not to accept any Bill which contained a repetition of the objectionable clause in the former Act.

I then read to them your Lordship's despatch, No. 138, of 2d November 1835, to Lord Sligo, in answer to his Lordship's despatches, in apprehension that the Assembly would pass no Police Bill, or one so exceptionable that it could not be accepted. I beg to refer your Lordship to the guarded caution you recommend to his Lordship in that despatch, against adopting, if possible to be avoided, extreme measures; yet all the difficulties had accumulated in this instance, which influenced the spirit of your Lordship's instructions.

The council immediately advised a short prorogation, and I accordingly summoned the House the next day.

The printed minutes of their proceedings herewith enclosed will explain to your Lordship the amendments proposed by the council, and my speech on the prorogation.

The House, according to my recommendation, having met on the 16th, again sent over a Police Bill to the council, improved in some alterations, but still retaining the principal original objections. Both branches adjourned to the 18th instant, when the council, faithful to their purpose, returned the Bill for amendment, and it came back to the council on the same day, with one material modification, that apprentices having produce in their possession taken from the premises, or being the property of their masters or employers, should be handed over to the special justice of the district. There was also a considerable mitigation in the fines and punishments awarded by the former Act.

The period had now arrived when I could no longer hope for any further concessions from the House to your Lordship's instructions, and I determined immediately to take the advice of the privy council as to my best course of conduct for Her Majesty's service.

I have the honour to enclose your Lordship a copy of the minutes on that occasion, by which your Lordship will perceive the council were unanimous in their advice, qualified only by the Attorney-general, that I should accept the Bill.

I am now to explain to your Lordship the unhappy position I was placed in, for I have deeply felt the serious responsibility of having acted contrary to your Lordship's most clear and positive instructions.

That position was a choice of evils, whether to accept an imperfect Bill, and retain the police, or dissolve the Assembly for the chance of a better Bill, which could not, however, secure the police, because the present Bill expires on the 31st instant, and no new House could be convened under 40 days.

When your Lordship considers the season, the close approach of the Christmas holidays, always one of some excitement, the risk, not to say injustice, of suddenly throwing a considerable body of men out of bread, to increase possibly that spirit of discontent among the negroes which has been spreading ever since Joseph Sturge's inflammatory discourses had become known to them, I feel confident your Lordship will admit I had strong grounds to prefer the first evil, particularly as I could in four months receive Her Majesty's disallowance of the Act, and your Lordship's commands to try a new House of Assembly, if you deemed such a course desirable. For myself, I should place no dependence whatever on such a measure.

The present Police Bill will continue in force through 1838, if approved of. In August that year, about 50,000 non-prædials come into unrestricted freedom, and it is the fashion of many to set down that event as one of danger or difficulty; I am not of this opinion, but I consider the substitution of unarmed constables, at the expense of the Queen's Government, would give no strength to the executive, or carry any useful influence against riot or resistance.

Carrying my reasoning to that period, it had its weight in the conclusion I have come to. That I failed in carrying a Bill more consonant to your Lordship's orders, and the spirit of the Abolition Law, is a source of unfeigned sorrow to me.

JAMAICA.

No. 2.
Votes.No. 3.
Extract from
Minutes of Council.

JAMAICA.

It was hardly possible to avoid error. It rests with your Lordship whether I have justified it. My consolation is, that the course I adopted is that best calculated to keep down agitation, and to preserve the peace and safety of the whole community.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Lionel Smith.*

Enclosures in No. 7.

(No. 2.)

Encl. in No. 7.

EXTRACTS from the JOURNALS of the HOUSE of ASSEMBLY of *Jamaica.*

7 December 1837.

THE Bill to organize a Police was read a second time.

Resolved,—That the said Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House on Wednesday the 13th instant.

13 December 1837.

The House, according to order, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the Bill to organize a Police.

Mr. Speaker left the chair.

Mr. Leslie took the chair of the committee.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

Mr. Leslie, from the committee, reported that they had gone through the Bill, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place and delivered in at the table, with the Bill, where the first, second and third amendments, being again severally read, were agreed unto by the House.

Then the fourth amendment, being again read, is as follows :

“ And be it enacted, that it shall be the duty of the police, and they are hereby required at all times to take up all vagrants or idle and disorderly persons, and to quell all riots, and disperse all unlawful meetings, and to apprehend all and every person and persons unlawfully armed, or having in his, her or their possession any arms or ammunition without a warrant for that purpose from some magistrate of the parish in which such person shall reside, or having in his, her or their possession any quantity of sugar, rum, pimento, coffee or other produce, who shall not be able to produce a permit from the proprietor, overseer or other person in charge of the property whereon such produce was grown and manufactured, or otherwise show that he, she or they has or have honestly become possessed of such property, and to carry such person or persons so apprehended before the nearest justice, who shall examine into the matter, and, upon conviction, adjudge the party or parties offending to pay a fine not exceeding the sum of 5*l.*, or, in failure of payment of such fine, to commit such offender or offenders to labour in the house of correction for a space of time not exceeding thirty days : provided always, in the event of no application from the owners of such produce within five days, the same shall be sold by order of such justice, and one moiety of the proceeds to be paid to the police apprehending such parties, and the other moiety to be appropriated for the poor of the parish in which such condemnation shall take place : provided also, that if the justice so called upon to adjudicate shall consider the offence to be of too aggravated a nature to be dealt with in such summary manner, he shall commit the offender to be tried at the quarter sessions of the parish in which such offence was committed.”

A motion was made to amend the said report by striking out, after the word coffee, the words “ or other produce,” and inserting, in lieu thereof, the words “ canes, wood or grass.”

A debate thereon arising, and the question being put on the amendment,

The House divided : the ayes went forth :

Ayes, 9 :—Mr. Townshend, Mr. Leslie, Mr. H. Brown, Mr. Collman, Mr. Berry, Mr. Whittaker, Mr. March, Mr. Farquharson and Mr. Barnett.

Noes, 12 :—Mr. J. S. Brown, Mr. Jordon, Mr. Hill, Mr. Cox, Mr. Hart, Mr. Barclay, Mr. Milner, Mr. Lake, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Fairweather, Mr. Dallas and Mr. Wright.

It passed in the negative.

And a motion being made that the said clause do stand a clause of the said Bill,

A debate thereon arising, and the question being put,

The House divided : the noes went forth :

Noes, 4 :—Mr. Taylor, Mr. March, Mr. J. S. Brown and Mr. Jordon.

Ayes, 17 :—Mr. Whittaker, Mr. Farquharson, Mr. Barnett, Mr. Hill, Mr. Cox, Mr. Collman, Mr. Hart, Mr. Berry, Mr. Barclay, Mr. Milner, Mr. Lake, Mr. Townshend, Mr. Leslie, Mr. Fairweather, Mr. Dallas, Mr. Wright, and Mr. H. Brown.

It was resolved in the affirmative.

Then the remaining amendments, being again severally read, were agreed unto by the House.

Ordered,—That the said Bill, with the amendments, be engrossed, and that the title be, “An Act to organize a Police.”

14 December 1837.

The engrossed Bill to organize a Police was read a third time.

A motion was made to amend the said Bill by inserting, after the words “or other produce” in the ninth clause, the following words, “or any canes, wood or grass.”

A debate thereon arising, and the question being put on the said amendment,

The House divided: the ayes went forth:

Ayes, 15:—Mr. H. Brown, Mr. J. Allwood, Mr. Panton, Mr. Townshend, Mr. Leslie, Mr. Berry, Mr. Hyslop, Mr. Mitchel, Mr. March, Mr. Gordon, Mr. Watt, Mr. Good, Mr. Collman, Mr. R. Allwood and Mr. Bravo.

Noes, 13:—Mr. Dallas, Mr. Hill, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Hart, Mr. Jordon, Mr. J. S. Brown, Mr. Cox, Mr. Fairweather, Mr. Barclay, Mr. Milner, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Lake and Mr. Osborn.

It was resolved in the affirmative, and the said Bill was amended accordingly.

Resolved,—That the said Bill as amended do pass.

MESSAGE from the COUNCIL, 15 December 1837.

Mr. Speaker,

I am commanded by the council to acquaint the House that they agree to the Bill, entitled “An Act to organize a Police,” with the following amendments:

In the tenth line from the bottom of the second sheet, after the words “all such” insert the word “lawful.”

In the sixth line from the bottom of the same sheet, after the words “promptly obey any” insert the words “such order as aforesaid.”

In the sixth line from the top of the third sheet, dele the words “or any canes, wood or grass.”

In the ninth line from the top of the same sheet, after the word “justice” insert the words “or, if an apprenticed labourer, before a special justice of the peace.”

In the sixth line from the bottom of the same sheet, after the word “such” insert the word “lawful.”

Resolved,—That the House do agree to the first and second amendments proposed by their honors in their message to the Bill therein mentioned.

A motion was made that the House do agree to the third amendment proposed by their honors in the said message.

A debate thereon arising, and the question being put,

The House divided: the ayes went forth:

Ayes, 12:—Mr. Fairweather, Mr. Osborn, Mr. Taylor, Mr. J. S. Brown, Mr. Lake, Mr. Jordon, Mr. Cox, Mr. Milner, Mr. Barclay, Mr. Dallas, Mr. Hill and Mr. Anderson.

Noes, 18:—Mr. Watt, Mr. J. Allwood, Mr. Sanguinetti, Mr. Gordon, Mr. Panton, Mr. Farquharson, Mr. R. Allwood, Mr. Bravo, Mr. Berry, Mr. Barnett, Mr. Good, Mr. Hyslop, Mr. Guy, Mr. Leslie, Mr. H. Brown, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Collman and Mr. Townshend.

It passed in the negative.

Resolved,—That the House do disagree to the third amendment proposed by their honors in their message to the Bill therein mentioned.

A motion was made that the House do agree to the fourth amendment proposed by their honors in their message of this day.

A debate thereon arising, and the question being put,

The House divided: the ayes went forth:

Ayes, 7:—Mr. Osborn, Mr. Taylor, Mr. J. S. Brown, Mr. Lake, Mr. Jordon, Mr. Hill and Mr. Anderson.

Noes, 23:—Mr. Watt, Mr. J. Allwood, Mr. Sanguinetti, Mr. Gordon, Mr. Panton, Mr. Dallas, Mr. Farquharson, Mr. R. Allwood, Mr. Barclay, Mr. Bravo, Mr. Berry, Mr. Barnett, Mr. Cox, Mr. Milner, Mr. Good, Mr. Hyslop, Mr. Guy, Mr. Leslie, Mr. H. Brown, Mr. Mitchel, Mr. Fairweather, Mr. Collman and Mr. Townshend.

It passed in the negative.

Resolved,—That the House do disagree to the fourth amendment proposed by their honors in their message to the Bill therein mentioned.

Resolved,—That the House do agree to the fifth amendment proposed by their honors in their message of this day to the Bill therein mentioned.

JAMAICA.

MESSAGE to the COUNCIL, 15 December 1837.

May it please your honors,

We are ordered by the House to acquaint you, that they agree to the first, second and fifth amendments proposed by your honors in your message of to-day to the Bill, entitled "An Act to organize a Police," and have amended their Bill accordingly; but that they disagree to the third and fourth amendments proposed by your honors in your said message, and do adhere to their said Bill in those respects.

Ordered,—That Mr. Barclay, Mr. Leslie and Mr. Mitchel be a committee to carry the above engrossed Bill to the council, and desire their concurrence thereto; also the above message, with the amended Bill, who, returning, reported the delivery thereof.

His Excellency was pleased to make the following speech :

Gentlemen of the Council,

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly,

The failure of two most important Bills in their progress to me—I mean the Police and Process Bills—and my desire to avert, if possible, the serious consequences which may result from the loss of them, compels me to resort to a short prorogation, which I trust will not be attended with great inconvenience to yourselves.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly,

When I consented to your adjournment, I did not contemplate the contingency which has arisen; I was actuated by my desire to grant your request, and nothing but my conviction of the embarrassment which the loss of these Bills will entail upon the island at large induces me now to interfere with your wishes.

Gentlemen of the Council,

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly,

I do now, in Her Majesty's name, prorogue this General Assembly until to-morrow the 16th instant, and it is hereby prorogued accordingly.

[End of the first Session.]

16 December 1837.

Mr. Speaker reported that the House had attended his Excellency the Governor in the council-chamber, when his Excellency was pleased to make a speech, of which Mr. Speaker said he had, to prevent mistakes, obtained a copy, and the same being read, was ordered to be entered, and is as follows :

Gentlemen of the Council,

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly,

It has been my anxious desire to avoid interrupting the progress of your public business, and nothing but paramount necessity induced me to resort to the late prorogation.

I therefore avail myself of this opportunity to invite your consideration of a measure for securing to the island the services of the police beyond the period contemplated by the present law, and I shall be much gratified if the result of your deliberations enables me to assent to a Bill for that desirable purpose.

You are already in possession of the views of Her Majesty's Government on this subject.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly,

I cannot too strongly impress upon you the difficulties which I apprehend should I be compelled to disband the police force, and I have no means at my disposal of continuing the present establishment without your co-operation.

I have also to call your attention to the Process Law, and to submit to your consideration the propriety of fixing a more adequate allowance for Crown witnesses than they at present receive.

A motion being made, that a committee be appointed to prepare an humble address to his Excellency the Governor for his speech at the opening of the session :

Ordered,—That Mr. Farquharson, Mr. Dallas, Mr. Leslie, Mr. Thompson and Mr. Milner be a committee for that purpose.

Ordered,—That his Excellency's speech be referred to the said committee.

The engrossed address to his Excellency the Governor was read in the following words :
Jamaica ss.

To his Excellency Sir Lionel Smith, Knight Commander of the most honourable Military Order of the Bath, Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order, a Lieutenant-general in Her Majesty's Land Forces, and Colonel of Her Majesty's 40th Regiment of Foot, Captain-general and Governor-in-chief and Commander of the Forces in and over this Her Majesty's Island of Jamaica, and the Territories thereon depending in America, Chancellor, Ordinary and Vice-admiral of the same.

The humble Address of the Assembly.

May it please your Excellency,

We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Assembly of Jamaica, thank your Excellency for your speech at the opening of the session.

We readily believe that nothing but a sense of paramount necessity induced your Excellency to resort to the late prorogation.

We

We are quite aware of the difficulties to be apprehended in the event of the police force being disbanded, and the subject received our serious deliberation during the last session. We, however, accede to your Excellency's invitation to reconsider the measure, as we are at all times desirous to meet, as far as we consistently can, the views of Her Majesty's Government, but our more important duty is to pass such measures only as we consider beneficial to the interests of the colony.

The Process Law shall also have our attention.

Resolved,—That the said address do pass.

Whereupon Mr. Speaker and the whole House went up, and, being returned, Mr. Speaker reported that the House had attended his Excellency the Governor, and presented their address, to which his Excellency was pleased to return an answer, of which Mr. Speaker said he had, to prevent mistakes, obtained a copy, and the same being read was ordered to be entered, and is as follows:

“ Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the Assembly,

“ I thank you for your assurances of attention to passing such measures as you may consider beneficial to the colony.”

Mr. Cox, according to order, presented to the House a Bill to organize a Police, which was received and read the first time.

Ordered,—That the said Bill be read a second time this day.

Then the House adjourned for one quarter of an hour.

And, being met,

The Bill to organize a Police was read a second time.

Resolved,—That the said Bill be committed to a committee of the whole House this day.

The House, according to order, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the Bill to organize a Police.

Mr. Speaker left the chair.

Mr. Cox took the chair of the committee.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

Mr. Cox, from the committee, reported that they had gone through the Bill, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and delivered in at the table with the Bill, where, being again severally read, the same were agreed unto by the House.

A motion was made to amend the said report by striking out the ninth clause, and inserting, in lieu thereof, the following clause:

“ And whereas, by the thirty-fourth section of an Act passed in the seventh year of the reign of King William the Fourth, entitled ‘ An Act for consolidating and amending the Laws in this Island relative to Larceny, and other Offences connected therewith,’ it was enacted, that if any sugar already manufactured, or in the process of manufacture, or any coffee or pimento, ginger or other valuable produce of the island commonly used for exportation, being of the value of one shilling and eight-pence at the least, shall, by virtue of a search-warrant to be granted, be found in the possession of any person, or on the premises of any person with his knowledge, and such person, being taken before a justice of the peace, shall not satisfy the justice that he or she came lawfully by the same, such person shall on conviction by the justice forfeit and pay, over and above the value of the article or articles so found, any sum not exceeding ten pounds; be it therefore enacted, that all the powers hereinbefore mentioned to be exercised by virtue of a search-warrant shall be lawfully exercised by any person of the police aforesaid on all persons whomsoever who shall be apprehended on the public roads, or in any other public place, with any sugar, coffee, pimento, ginger or other valuable produce of the island commonly used for exportation, without any search-warrant whatsoever previously obtained, and on such person or persons not being able to show that he or she or they came honestly possessed of such property; and on such person or persons being so apprehended as aforesaid, and being taken before the nearest justice of the peace, and not being able to satisfy such justice of the peace aforesaid that he or she or they came lawfully by the same, such person or persons shall on conviction forfeit and pay, over and above the value of the article or articles so found, any sum or sums not exceeding ten pounds, as aforesaid, or in default of the payment of such fine or fines be adjudged to be and stand committed to the house of correction, to be kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding the space of thirty days.”

A debate thereon arising, and the question being put on the said amendment,

The House divided: the ayes went forth:

Ayes, 8:—Mr. Fairweather, Mr. Barclay, Mr. Dallas, Mr. Milner, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Hill, Mr. Bravo and Mr. Cox.

Noes, 14:—Mr. Berry, Mr. Watt, Mr. J. Allwood, Mr. Leslie, Mr. Panton, Mr. Whitaker, Mr. Guy, Mr. Farquharson, Mr. Sanguinetti, Mr. R. Allwood, Mr. March, Mr. Barnett, Mr. Townshend and Mr. H. Brown.

It passed in the negative.

Ordered,—That the said Bill, with the amendments, be engrossed, and read a third time this day, and that the title be “ An Act to organize a Police.”

The engrossed Bill to organize a Police was read a third time.

A motion being made that the said Bill do pass,

A debate thereon arising, and the question being put,

It was resolved in the affirmative, and the said Bill was passed accordingly.

JAMAICA.

Ordered,—That Mr. Cox, Mr. Pantón and Mr. Guy be a committee to carry the above engrossed Bill to the council, and desire their concurrence thereto, who, returning, reported the delivery thereof.

Mr. Speaker acquainted the House that he had his Excellency the Governor's leave to adjourn the House from time to time as they shall think proper.

18 December 1837.

A message from their honors the council, by the clerk of the council, as follows :

Mr. Speaker,

I am commanded by the council to acquaint the House that they agree to the Bill, entitled “An act to organize a Police,” with the following amendments :

In the second line from the top of the fourth sheet, dele the words “to the said justice, by evidence on oath.”

In the eighth line from the top of the same sheet, dele all the words in that line and all the words in the succeeding lines, to the words “be carried” exclusive in the twelfth line from the top of the same sheet, and insert, in lieu thereof, the words “such offender shall.”

Resolved,—That the House do agree to the first amendment proposed by their honors in their said message to the Bill therein mentioned.

A motion was made that the House do agree to the second amendment proposed by their honors in their said message.

A debate thereon arising, and the question being put,

The House divided: the ayes went forth :

Ayes, 3 :—Mr. Taylor, Mr. Hill and Mr. Anderson.

Noes, 19 :—Mr. Whittaker, Mr. Grosett, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Barnett, Mr. Hyslop, Mr. Sanguinetti, Mr. R. Allwood, Mr. Dallas, Mr. J. Allwood, Mr. Watt, Mr. Collman, Mr. Farquharson, Mr. Pantón, Mr. Milner, Mr. Berry, Mr. Townshend, Mr. Guy, Mr. March and Mr. H. Brown.

It passed in the negative.

Resolved,—That the House do disagree to the second amendment proposed by their honors in their said message, and that they do adhere to their said Bill.

Ordered,—That the following message be sent to their honors the council :

May it please your honors,

We are ordered by the House to acquaint you, that they agree to the first amendment proposed by your honors in your message of to-day to the Bill, entitled ‘An Act to organize a Police,’ and have amended their Bill accordingly ; but that they disagree to the second amendment proposed by your honors in the said message, and do adhere to their said Bill in this respect.

Ordered,—That Mr. Milner and Mr. Farquharson be a committee to carry the above message, with the amended Bill, to the council, who, returning, reported the delivery thereof.

Whereupon Mr. Speaker and the whole House went up, when his Excellency was pleased to give his assent to the two following Bills :

“An Act to continue in force, for a limited Period, an Act, entitled ‘An Act for the further Regulation of the Service and Execution of Process, and the Returns thereof, and rendering the Duty of Jurors more equal ; for empowering the Supreme Court of Judicature to grant Special Juries ; for granting a daily Subsistence to Crown Witnesses confined in Gaol for want of Security, and for other purposes ;’ and to amend the 22d Clause of the said Act, and to legalize the Fees of the Clerk of the Crown.”

“An Act to organize a Police.”

(No. 3.)

In Privy Council, the 18th December 1837.

Present :

His Excellency the Governor,
Honourable the Chief Justice,
“ William Rowe,
“ James Gayleard,

Honourable Dowell O'Reilly,
“ John Salmon,
“ W. D. Turner.

His Excellency the Governor requested the Board would advise him how to act with regard to the Police Bill.

The Board having taken his Excellency's communication into their consideration, and being of opinion that, although the House had not adopted the whole of the amendments sent down from the Council, they had removed much of the objectionable part of the clause, and taking into consideration the approaching holidays, and the consequences which might possibly result from disbanding the police, they advised his Excellency to pass the Bill.

Mr. Attorney-general was of opinion that the objectionable part of the Bill was not removed, and he was against the Bill being passed ; at the same time he considered that his Excellency would assume a great responsibility, as the majority of the council were of opinion that his Excellency should pass the Bill, if he did not do so ; and he therefore advised his Excellency to be governed by the opinion of the majority of the Board.

W. Y. Stewart, Clerk to the Council.

— No. 8. —

(No. 219.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B.

Sir,

Downing-street, 13 February 1838.

No 8.

I HAVE received your despatch dated the 20th December 1837, No. 233, enclosing a copy of the Jamaica Police Bill, and explaining the circumstances under which you were reluctantly induced to give your assent to that measure, in order to avoid inconveniences of a still more serious nature.

Although the shortness of the time which intervenes between my receipt of that despatch and the departure of the ensuing West India packet prevents my communicating to you by that opportunity Her Majesty's decision on this Act, yet I cannot delay to express my opinion, that the course which you pursued on this occasion under the difficulties with which the question was surrounded entitles you to the approbation of Her Majesty's Government. While thus exonerating you from all responsibility for having acted in opposition to the letter of my instructions on the subject, I must guard myself against being supposed to intimate any opinion as to the course which it will be proper to take in reference to the Act itself, or an acquiescence in such provisions of that Act as are opposed to the principle on which I had felt it my duty to insist.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

— No. 9. —

(No. 234.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B.

Sir,

Downing-street, 1 March 1838.

No. 9.

WITH reference to my despatch, No. 219, of the 13th ultimo, I have now to inform you that, notwithstanding the modification ultimately adopted in the Police Act recently passed in Jamaica, that Act still appears to me open to such serious objections as to impose on Her Majesty's Government the obligation of adopting some effectual means for preventing the evils which might result from its provisions remaining in force without any alteration. It is therefore intended in the Bill about to be proposed to Parliament for amending the Slavery Abolition Act, to provide for this object.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

JAMAICA.

4.

CLASSIFICATION ACT.

— No. 10.—

(No. 76.)

No. 10. COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B., to Lord *Glenelg*.The King's House, Jamaica,
13 March 1837.

My Lord,

HAVING laid before the Legislature a copy of your Lordship's despatch to the Marquis of Sligo, of the 22d January 1836, relative to a classification by legal enactment of the apprenticed population, I have much pleasure in acquainting your Lordship that an Act has been passed which will, I think, effectually accomplish the object in view.

I enclose, for your Lordship's information, a printed copy of the law in question. The chairman of the committee appointed to bring in the Bill communicated with me freely with respect to its details; and, at my suggestion, one or two clauses were struck out which appeared to me to militate against the provisions of the Imperial Abolition Act.

The sixth clause has reference to certain classifications which were made by the special magistrates under the Marquis of Sligo's directions; but as no law existed to compel the parties concerned to co-operate with the magistrates, the measure was of course but very partially effected.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Lionel Smith*.

— No. 11.—

(No. 88.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B.

No. 11.

Sir,

Downing-street, 1 May 1837.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 13th March, transmitting an Act passed by the Legislature of Jamaica for the classification of the apprenticed labourers.

It has been very gratifying to me to learn by this despatch the successful result of my recommendations, and of your efforts to introduce a classification, which will effectually obviate the confusion and the discontent which might otherwise have prevailed at the expiration of 15 months from the present time.

In this result I gladly acknowledge one of the beneficial consequences which have followed from the friendly understanding which has prevailed between yourself and the House of Assembly.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Glenelg*.

— No. 12.—

(No. 134.)

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B., dated Downing-street, 2 September 1837.

No. 12.

IN my despatch of the 1st May (No. 88), I noticed with approbation the Act (No. 3242) for the classification of apprenticed labourers; referring on that occasion rather to the general epitome of the law which your despatch contained than to the details of the Act itself, I now apprehend that I may have conveyed to you a more favourable impression of my view of the subject than it is in my power to give, after an attentive study of the transcript which is now before me.

It has been objected that this Act does not impose on the magistrates the duty of issuing a special citation to every apprentice, and of explaining to him his rights, and the consequences of asserting or neglecting them. I do not subscribe to this objection, because I think that it is not within the proper object of a legislative Act to inculcate the performance of duties thus general and indefinite. On the

*Vide Parliamentary
Papers respecting
the Abolition of
Slavery, 1836,
Part 3 (1) p. 147.*

*Vide Appendix,
No. 3.*

the other hand, you will of course have impressed on the magistrates the necessity of these full communications with the apprentices, and will have ascertained that your injunctions have been obeyed.

Secondly. It is objected that the special justice is authorized by this Act to decide against the apprentice without his consent, although he cannot decide against the employer except with his consent. I think this remark well founded. It may indeed be answered that the apprentice bears the relation of a client to the justice, and that confidence may be given to his decisions when against his client, which it would be unreasonable to give when they were in his favour. This, however, is to assume an habitual partiality towards the apprentices, the existence of which could be supposed only by imputing to the magistrates an habitual disregard of their oaths.

Thirdly. It is said that this Act requires the apprentice to sustain the burden of proof which it is declared ought to be borne by the employer. Concurring in this opinion as to the party who should substantiate the facts of the case, I do not adopt the construction which is thus given to the law. I cannot perceive that the Act requires, nor do I think that it was meant to require, that the apprentice should prove his right to be excepted from the protracted servitude, at least until his liability to it had been first made out by evidence adduced by the employer.

Fourthly. The power of selecting an umpire is vested in the employer, provided he makes his choice from the list of special magistrates. Considering the number of gentlemen comprised in that list, and their various opinions, I know not how to answer the remark, that this is to give an unfair advantage to the employer. He has the choice of the ultimate judge within a circle wide enough to secure to him great advantage from the possession of it. The chief justice of the island would certainly appear to be the proper umpire on these questions.

Fifthly. The ratification of all antecedent agreements is objected to, because it might give validity to some into which the apprentice had entered in ignorance of his rights. If the law must be construed as precluding those objections by which the validity of any contract ought to be impugned, then I should regard this remark as conclusive. But I conceive that the Act does not require this construction, but it is to be understood as referring only to contracts entered into in good faith, and without any unfair advantage being taken of the ignorance of the weaker party.

Sixthly. It is provided by this Act that all tradesmen who are in the occupation of lands for their support, and who have had to their own use for the cultivation of such lands the extra time granted to prædial apprentices under the Abolition Act, shall be classed as prædials. Now the fourth section of the Act of Parliament, 3 & 4 Will. IV. c. 73, provides "that no person of the age of 12 years or upwards shall, by or by virtue of any such Act of Assembly as is therein mentioned, be included in either of the said two classes of prædial apprenticed labourers, unless such person shall for 12 calendar months at the least before the passing of this present Act have been habitually employed in agriculture or in the manufacture of colonial produce." The criterion by which Parliament has thus determined who shall be prædials is essentially different from that which is given in the Act under consideration; the two are incompatible, and, in this respect, repugnant to each other. The consequence appears inevitable, that the Act of Assembly must be disallowed.

The enactment is indeed vindicated by a preamble, which states, that doubts may arise from the mixed nature of the employment of these persons, and refers to certain instructions issued by Lord Sligo, under which plantation tradesmen were classed as prædials. Although I do not perceive the alleged obscurity of the Act of Parliament, yet if its meaning be really doubtful, that doubt must either be solved by its authors, or explained by the judges. A colonial legislature has no power to pronounce an authoritative interpretation of an Act of Parliament. In reality, however, the Act of Assembly does not attempt to remove the alleged ambiguity. It does not state the meaning of the Parliamentary rule, but substitutes for it a new and different regulation. With the utmost deference for the judgment of Lord Sligo, I cannot regard his Lordship's authority as adequate to the purpose for which it is cited.

You will impress on the Council and Assembly the indispensable necessity for the revision of this Act in their approaching session. The necessity of a law for ascertaining the class to which each labourer is to belong was distinctly asserted in the Act of Parliament, and is now as distinctly admitted by the legislature of

JAMAICA.

the island. I should be wanting in the frankness which I owe to you and to the Council and Assembly, if I should forbear to avow the determination of Her Majesty's Government not to acquiesce in any measure which does not correspond with, and give effect to, this part of the compact entered into between Great Britain and the colony.

—No. 13.—

(No. 147.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B.,

No. 13.

Sir,

Downing-street, 21 September 1837.

No. 3242.

I HAVE the honour to enclose herewith an Order made by The Queen in Council on Wednesday the 20th instant, disallowing an Act passed by yourself, with the advice and consent of the Council and Assembly of Jamaica, intituled, "An Act for the Classification of the Apprenticed Labourers;" together with an extract of the Report of the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade, upon which the Order has been founded.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

Enclosure in No. 13.

EXTRACT from a REPORT of the LORDS of the COMMITTEE of COUNCIL for TRADE, dated the 19th of September 1837, upon an Act passed by the Legislature of Jamaica in 1837, No. 3242.

Encl. in No. 13.

THE Lords of the Committee having taken the said Act into consideration, humbly take leave to report as their opinion to your Majesty, that this Act should be disallowed, because the provisions of it, so far as respects the definition of prædial-apprenticed labourers, are repugnant to the provisions of the fourth section of the Act passed in the third and fourth year of his late Majesty King William the Fourth, for the Abolition of Slavery in the British Colonies; and because the provisions made by this Act for the classification of prædial and non-prædial apprenticed labourers are in many respects ill adapted to the purpose in view.

—No. 14.—

(No. 12.)

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B., to Lord *Glenelg*, dated Spanish Town, 17 January 1838.

No. 14.

REFERRING your Lordship to that part of your despatch, No. 134, 2d September 1837, which conveys your Lordship's reasons for Her Majesty's disallowance of the Classification Act, I feel great embarrassment what to do, either to get rid of that Act, or remove its objectionable operation. Your Lordship will perceive the Act came into effect in June last, and existed for 30 days only, and having passed the Assembly and Council, and obtained my consent, it became a law, and actually expired even before your despatch was written, as it only had two months existence. The law authorities here maintain it is now irrevocable, as regards Her Majesty's disallowance, and it would be perfectly useless for me to appeal to the House for a new Bill. Having long contemplated the extreme importance of some law to define the classes of apprenticed labourers, and considering the law established by the imperial Act to be so susceptible of proof, I did not certainly contemplate danger to the interests of any claimants in appeal to the local Act, and in fact no difficulties have occurred, or have I reason to suspect there has been any extensive denial of justice to those who claim to belong to the non-prædial class.

To ascertain how far the present law has been acted upon, I have called for returns from the special magistrates, showing the number of cases adjudicated, which I will transmit to your Lordship by the next packet.

5.

DECISIONS of the SUPREME COURT.

— No. 15. —

(No. 103.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B., to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Jamaica, The King's House, 6 April 1837.

No. 15.

I TAKE leave to call your Lordship's attention to a very important difference between the Royal Instructions sent out to me, and those with which my predecessor was furnished.

In the proviso to the 38th clause of Lord Sligo's Instructions are inserted these words, "where the rights in future may be bound, or the title of any person or persons to freedom may be affected;" and the clause goes on to say, that in all such cases an appeal may be admitted to the privy council, though the amount appealed for be of a less value than 500*l.* sterling. These words are entirely omitted in the corresponding clause of my Instructions, and I apprehend much inconvenience in the event of the question of the right to freedom of non-registered slaves being tried in the courts, if from this unfortunate omission I shall find myself precluded from granting an appeal to the privy council.

It is possible that this proviso has been omitted from the consideration that it could only affect persons in the condition of slaves, but your Lordship will immediately perceive that it is equally applicable to apprentices, who are subject to restrictions upon their freedom until the period of their final emancipation arrives.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Lionel Smith*.

— No. 16. —

(No. 104.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B.

Sir,

Downing-street, 11 June 1837.

No. 16.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 6th of April, No. 103, referring to the omission, in the 38th clause of your General Instructions, of the passage contained in the Instructions addressed by his Majesty to the Marquis of Sligo.

You rightly conclude that this alteration was made in consequence of the opinion which I entertained, that after the abolition of slavery there could not arise in Jamaica any "suit or action in which the title of any person or persons to freedom could be affected." It was for that reason that I advised the King to exclude from your Instructions the passage by which, in former times, a right of appeal had been given from the judgments of the inferior tribunals in cases of that nature.

You, however, are of opinion that if the right of unregistered slaves to the unqualified enjoyment of freedom should be brought to adjudication in the courts of Jamaica, much inconvenience would arise from the omission of these words, which, if retained, would, as you conceive, have authorized you to grant an appeal to the King in Council in any such case. To obviate this difficulty, I propose to transmit to you an additional Instruction, under the Royal Sign Manual, authorizing you to admit appeals in any case in which the liability of any person to serve as an apprenticed labourer, under the laws for the abolition of slavery, may be brought into question. The propriety of giving this special power was certainly not foreseen when your Instructions were prepared, and I am indebted to you for pointing it out. I still, however, think, that if the omitted words had been retained, they would not have reached this case, and would not have been consonant with the new state of law prevailing in the colonies. All doubt on this subject will now be removed by the terms of the additional Instruction.

I am, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

JAMAICA.

— No. 17.—

No. 17.

(No. 129.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K. C. B.

Sir,

Downing-street, 15 August 1837.

WITH reference to my despatch, No. 104, of the 11th of June, I have now the honour to transmit to you an additional Instruction, under the Royal Sign Manual, authorizing you to admit appeals to The Queen in Council, from judgments of the tribunals in Jamaica, in cases in which the liability of any person to serve as an apprenticed labourer under the law for the abolition of slavery may be brought in question.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

Enclosure in No. 17.

VICTORIA R.

Encl. in No. 17.

ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS to Our trusty and well-beloved Sir *Lionel Smith*, Knight Commander of the most honourable Military Order of the Bath, Major-general of Our Forces, Our Captain-general and Governor-in-chief in and over Our Island of Jamaica and the Territories depending thereon, or in his absence to Our Lieutenant-governor, or the Officer administering the Government of Our said Island and its Dependencies for the time being. Given at Buckingham Palace, this 13th day of August 1837, in the first year of Our reign.

WHEREAS his late Majesty King William the Fourth did by certain Letters Patent, bearing date at Westminster, the 29th day of October 1836, in the seventh year of his Majesty's reign, constitute and appoint you to be Captain-general and Governor-in-chief in and over the Island of Jamaica and the Territories depending thereon; and did in and by the said Letters Patent require and command you to do and execute all things in due manner that should belong to your said command, and the trust thereby reposed in you, according to the several powers and authorities granted or appointed you by the said Letters Patent, and the Instructions under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet therewith given to you, or according to such further powers, directions and authorities as should at any time thereafter be granted or appointed you under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet, or by order in his said late Majesty's Privy Council, or by his said late Majesty through one of his Principal Secretaries of State:

And whereas it hath been represented to Us, that it would be expedient that order should be made for the admission of appeals unto Us, in Our Privy Council, from the judgments, decrees or sentences of any of Our courts of law or equity in Our said Island and Territories, in cases where the liability of any person to serve as an apprenticed labourer under the Law for the Abolition of Slavery may be brought into question: It is therefore Our will and pleasure, and you are hereby authorized and empowered to admit appeals unto Us, in Our Privy Council, from any of the judgments, decrees or sentences of any of the superior courts of law or of equity in the said Island and Territories, in all cases in which the liabilities of any person to serve as an apprenticed labourer, under the Law for the Abolition of Slavery, may be brought into question; subject to all such rules and regulations for bringing and prosecuting such appeals as are in force in reference to appeals from the judgments, decrees or sentences of the said courts in other cases.

— No. 18.—

(No. 145.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B., to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 18.

My Lord,

King's House, 25 July 1837.

THE quarterly reports of all the special magistrates terminating on the 30th ult. will, I hope, be ready for the next packet, but their collection is a work of uncertainty.

I deem the enclosed report from Mr. Hill, a gentleman in whose legal knowledge I have considerable confidence, so important as requiring to be brought under your Lordship's special notice, arising out of certain decisions in the June grand court, and affecting the Abolition Law.

I have, of course, called upon the Attorney-general for his report on all the cases referred to by Mr. Hill, but if your Lordship does not receive it in time proportioned to the emergency, I hope I may be held harmless.

In consequence of the decision of the court upon the non-registry question, I have had applications to apprehend and restore to their former owners apprentices who

Report, dated
12 July 1837.

who have been virtually free since the Abolition Law. This I have, of course, refused, intimating the decision here would be appealed against to the King in Council.

Unfortunately the sum set up of individual value in the cause of *Bayley v. Ewart* does not amount to that, authorizing an appeal to a court of error. I have, therefore, intimated to the defendants in the cause, that I would send the appeal home direct to your Lordship, or that they might do so themselves.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Lionel Smith.*

Enclosure in No. 18.

Mr. *Hill's* REPORT on certain Cases decided in the Supreme Court.

Special Justice Department, Spanish Town,
12 July 1837.

Encl. in No. 18.

May it please your Excellency,

THE decision of controverted points in the Abolition Law which took place in the last sittings of the supreme court of judicature claim some notice in this quarter's report.

The questions in dispute embraced the liability of slaves, not duly registered, to serve as apprentices; the authority of the special magistracy to hear, inquire into and determine grievances, whereon they might consider it necessary to do so, either on or off the plantations within their respective districts; the obligation of the master to provide medical assistance for the sick apprentice in his service; and the legality of regulations in prisons and houses of correction by the general justices of the peace, which inflict greater punishment than is contemplated in the sentence of the special magistrate.

The decisions pronounced by the supreme court, and the interpretation given to the law, in the progress of arguing the various matters disputed, will be found in the following memoranda.

June Grand Court, 1837.

The chief justice decided in *Bayley v. Ewart*, that non-registered slaves in 1832 are not exempt from service as apprentices; one registration of the parties as slaves, at any time, being to be considered the duly registering such slaves for all the purposes of the Abolition Law.

The court ruled in the action, *Mason v. Oldrey*, that a justice appointed to a district only had jurisdiction off plantations for estates not entitled to statutory visits, on account of the number of labourers being under 40. In all questions and things relating to plantations having 40 labourers and upwards, his authority was to be held to be restricted to the plantation itself, he being bound to hold statutory courts there every two weeks.

The court ruled in *Mason v. Oldrey*, that a special justice could not summon witnesses before him, on a visit to a plantation, on any but alleged complaints and grievances on which an adjudication was to take place.

The court ruled in *Harris v. Lowndes*, for obstructing the special justice, that the magistrate appointed to administer the Abolition Law has no right to consider that restraint an obstruction which goes only to prohibit his going to the field where the people are working, since, on complaints preferred before him, the parties are to be summoned, and, if necessary, forcibly compelled to give evidence by being brought up in custody.

The chief justice ruled in the criminal information against *Hendricks*, that the magistrates empowered to visit gaols and houses of correction had authority to fix rules and regulations to be observed with regard to prisoners, without even the supervision of the Governor; and that cutting the hair off the head, under commitment by a special justice, was not an assault, though there was a special exemption in the warrant against any such infliction.

It was argued by the counsel in defence, in *Rex v. Mason*, for neglecting a sick apprentice, and concurred in by the court, that the special justice had no authority to treat as a case of neglect the non-provision of medical attendance for the sick on an estate. It was sufficient that the proprietor conformed to the law which regulated plantations in a state of slavery; the 16th clause of the Abolition Act required nothing more than that degree of care and attention which then existed. The consolidated Slave Law did not fix medical attendance as a legal obligation, and it does not exist as a legal obligation now, though it was the usage of the colony in times of slavery.

On these decisions and interpretations of the law, I have ventured to make the following remarks.

No inference favourable to claimants of non-registered slaves can be drawn from the fact, that they were admitted to receive compensation. The British nation submitted to a sacrifice to abolish slavery, and making generosity as well as justice a character of the measure, the commissioners for apportioning the money were left to the rules of equity as well as law in distributing it; but liberality in dealing with the master was no reason for prodigality with the rights of the servant. A price was paid for the abolition of slavery, that those who had been wronged might be admitted to the enjoyment of every right which they were entitled

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to claim by the extinction of the system. The master who had conformed in all things to the law, who had kept his interest as a slave-owner unimpaired, was permitted to claim and enforce for a term of years the service of the emancipated bondman as an apprentice; but it never was contemplated that those who had disparaged their interests, by neglecting the obligations of the law, should be admitted to the same favours with those who had complied with its demands; it therefore limited the apprenticeship rights to masters only who had duly registered their former slaves, in conformity with the laws then in force in the colonies.

The chief justice's decision makes no distinction between the person who fulfils the law and the individual who neglects it; and it increases the numbers under partial bondage, when the object of the Act is to create an accession to the amount of persons totally free; first, by the expedient of releasing those who were under six years of age in 1834; secondly, by exempting from service those who had visited or might visit the British shores, with the consent of their masters; and, thirdly, by discharging those who should be prepared to pay an equitable price for their dismissal from further service.

The effect of this decision is to call on the special justice to reclaim into the bondage of apprenticeship persons who have resisted a demand for their service on account of not being duly registered, after having exercised during half the term of the apprenticeship the rights of freemen. As, however, the special justice will hesitate to enforce the obligation to serve until the decision of the supreme court of the colony is affirmed by an appeal to the King in Council, the practical evil is limited to the controversy in which the two conflicting interests must stand involved, and the restraint which must be placed on the confidence of the party claiming to be free; not so the decision of the same court, in which it is declared that the special justice has no power to hear and determine cases within his district any where but on the plantation having 40 apprentices, for complaints which relate to the masters and apprentices of such plantations. This is a positive impediment to the administration of the law. To restrict the magistrate's inquiries within these bounds is to abridge his power of protecting the apprentice.

In practice, the estates' court is nearly entirely restricted to accusations in which the master is the complainant. The authority given to the magistrate to hear cases where the people may be working is denied. The obligation to inquire into any matters or things that come to the knowledge of the visiting justice in any other shape than as a substantive complaint is repudiated. Where, then, has the negro an opportunity of making his wrongs known, or his claims heard and respected, but before the magistrate in the general courts held on those days which the law has conceded to the apprentice as his own? The 53d clause of the Abolition Act assigns to the special justice "a district, that promptitude and despatch in the administration of justice may be ensured," giving him power "to decide in a summary way all questions which may be brought before him, which are within the jurisdiction and authority committed to him;" while, "for the frequent and punctual visitation of the apprenticed labourers within this district," he is, by the 54th clause, "to visit the estates once every 14 days, at least, to hear and determine the matters and things declared within his authority and jurisdiction by the Act."

There are obviously two distinct provisions in these sections of the law,—a general jurisdiction within a prescribed district for all matters that are made subjects of inquiry and adjudication within the law, and a particular and subsidiary duty of visiting the estates, that these objects may the more effectually be fulfilled. The duty of visiting is only in aid of the general jurisdiction within the district, and is not, or ought not to be, intended to extinguish the right of inquiry any where but on the plantation for matters which concern the interests of the servant, or which relate to the duties of the master. The Attorney-general very justly remarked, in reply to the dictum of the court, that the special justice's authority under these clauses is analogous to that of the general justice of the peace, who has a general jurisdiction within a particular parish or precinct for all that concerns the preservation of the peace, or the maintenance of public order; while he has a particular jurisdiction in special sessions appointed to be held at particular times and places, for the more effectual accomplishment of the purpose for which his general powers are assigned him.

I shall not question whether the decision of the supreme court is right or wrong. My object is to point out that its practical evils are great, and its operation prejudicial to the interests of the apprentice, who, debarred from having his grievance inquired into in his own time, is not permitted by the nature and obligations of his service to make them known in the time of his master.

As these interpretations of the law must greatly influence the administration of justice under the Abolition Act, I would remark in conclusion, that the attention of the executive government cannot too early be called to their practical effects.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Richard Hill*,
Special Justice, and Assistant-Secretary
to the Special Justice Department.

His Excellency Sir Lionel Smith, K. C. B.

—No. 19.—

(No. 142.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B.

Sir,

Downing-street, 15 September 1837.

No. 19.

I HAVE received your despatch, No. 145, of the 25th July, transmitting a report from Mr. Hill with reference to the recent decision by the supreme court of judicature of several controverted points in the Abolition Law of Jamaica.

I shall wait with some anxiety the report of the Attorney-general on the various points referred to in this document, which appear to me of great importance; and in the meantime I have to convey to you my full approbation of the course which you adopted with respect to the applications addressed to you, to apprehend and to return to their former owners apprentices who have been virtually free on the ground of their omission from the last registry of slaves prior to the Abolition Law coming into operation.

I am, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

—No. 20.—

(No. 173.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B., to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Spanish Town, 8 September 1837.

No. 20.

A VERY important case respecting the right of slaves not registered in 1832 to their discharge from apprenticeship was argued in the Middlesex grand court, held in June last, and the opinion of the court being adverse to the claim advanced, has brought many references on me from the special justices and others.

My instructions on all such references have been not to consider such persons as apprentices, and to refuse adjudicating; which was also the instruction of my predecessor, Lord Sligo.

But the question being one of some interest, I consider it my duty to put your Lordship in possession of the judgment of the court at length, and which you will accordingly find detailed in the enclosed newspaper (Postscript to the *St. Jago Gazette*, from the 3d to 10th June), and which report is acknowledged in the notes enclosed to be a correct copy of the opinions delivered in court.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Lionel Smith*.

Vide Despatch,
No. 145, of
25 July 1837.

Sir J. Rowe,
27 Aug.
Mr. Bernard
10 Aug.

Enclosure 1, in No. 20.

POSTSCRIPT to the *St. Jago Gazette*.

GRAND COURT, Tuesday, 6 June 1837.

COURT—Seven Judges—their Honors the Chief, R. Barrett, T. J. Bernard, R. Allwood, H. Mitchel, J. Mais and J. Wilson. Encl. 1, in No. 20.

Mr. Justice Bernard delivered his judgment in the case of *Bayley v. Ewart*, in which he differed from the majority of the court, as follows:—

Mr. Justice Bernard.—The plaintiff in this case seeks to recover his immediate discharge from the remainder of the term of apprenticeship, created by the Acts for the Abolition of Slavery, and the fact upon which he rests his claim is, that although returned by his former owner, and included among his slaves, as required by the 57th Geo. 3, c. 15, commonly called the Registry Act, for the years 1817, 1820, 1823, 1826 and 1829, yet, inasmuch as he was not included in any return for 1832, he has not been duly registered in conformity with the laws in force in this island, that he therefore did not pass into apprenticeship, under the first clause of the 3 & 4 Will. 4, c. 73, and did not incur the obligation imposed by that Act, and that of consequence, under the 12th clause, he becomes absolutely free.

The points therefore to be decided are, first, does the 3 & 4 Will. 4, c. 73, manumize at once and unconditionally persons not duly registered in conformity with the laws of the several colonies; and secondly, if it does so, what constitutes a due registration under the Island Act, 57 Geo. 3, c. 15? As there is no difference of opinion on the first point, namely, that persons not duly registered as slaves in conformity with the Acts in force in the respective colonies become at once free and absolutely manumitted, I will proceed to state my reasons for differing from the majority of the court, in thinking, as I do, that the plaintiff has not been duly registered in conformity with the 57 Geo. 3, c. 15, and that therefore he is entitled to a verdict in the case.

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The counsel for the defendant mentioned the case of the slaves at Mauritius. That case does not at all bear upon the present. There were two points raised with regard to the Mauritius, and, in order to make them understood, it is necessary to show the difference between the law at Mauritius and the law here. The orders in council by which that island is governed directed, that there should be a registration every two years, at such times as the governor should by proclamation appoint. Their method of registration was by giving in a list of names, and the register of slaves having inspected them filed the registration. In 1832 the owners gave in the slaves, but Mr. Mylius, the register, not being satisfied with their accuracy, did not register them; of this fact, however, he never acquainted the owners, and it seems to have been held by their Lordships that the parties had complied with the ordinance and proclamation, and therefore ought not to be damnified. The other point was as to the slaves in 1834. The Abolition Bill having passed in 1833, the governor did not issue a proclamation appointing a time for registration in that year; their Lordships could not therefore declare the people free for want of due registration, because the governor's proclamation to appoint a time was part of the law under which the registration was to be made, and in want of it no registration could take place, so that no decision to which their Lordships came on that question can in my opinion prejudice this, or be considered in point.

It is necessary, in the first instance, to notice the title of the Act, which is usually termed the Registry Act; it is "An Act for a more particular Return of Slaves in this Island, and the Enrollment thereof;" the first clause directs that all holders and possessors of slaves on the 28th June 1817, shall on or before the 28th September 1817, render to the vestry-clerk of the parish where such slaves are settled, worked and employed, "a true and faithful list or return in writing, or true and perfect lists or returns in writing, of all and every slave or slaves so possessed by him, her or them;" and the clause proceeds to state, that the name and other particulars by which such slave might be identified, should be set forth in such "list or return," according to a form or schedule marked (A.) After proceeding to give further directions and making other enactments respecting this first return of 1817, the Act then goes on to provide for a triennial return, and accordingly, by the fourth clause, it is enacted, that all persons in possession of slaves on the 28th June 1820, and in every third succeeding year, shall, on or before the 28th September then next ensuing, render to the clerk of the vestry "a true and perfect list or return in writing, according to the schedule (B.) annexed to the Act; and this section of this Act proceeds to point out that this last "list or return in writing shall, in the first place, state the total of males and females contained in the last return;" and it then proceeds to direct how the return shall point out the increase and decrease of the slaves in the hands of the person making such return; and this section contains an express direction in these words, "And at the foot of every such return required by this clause, there shall be stated in distinct lines, the total number of slaves in possession on the 28th June, in the year for which such return shall be made, also, in like manner, the total number of births or deaths since the last return." Certain clauses then follow as to the proceedings to be resorted to, first for the recovery of penalties against persons omitting to make returns in conformity with the Act, and then the manner in which slaves not registered should be proceeded against; but on these points it is quite unnecessary to comment. We are not trying the defendant in an action for that penalty, or an information filed after the recovery of such penalty; we are not now seeking how the slave is to be dealt with under the 57 Geo. 3, c. 15, s. 17, with reference to the laws for abolishing the slave trade; but we are considering the right of this supposed apprentice to freedom, under the 3 & 4 Will. 4, c. 73, the law for abolishing slavery itself. Having gone through so much of the Act as applies to this case, let us now apply the law to the facts. We find that the plaintiff was duly returned in 1817, according to schedule (A.), and for several periods triennially, after 1829, according to schedule (B.); but in 1832 he was not included in any list or return. I think the law as much requires that he should have been included in the number given in 1832, as in the list of names given in 1817, and I cannot see that it was less necessary that he should be returned according to schedule (B.) in 1832, than in 1829 or 1820; if a triennial return was necessary in 1820, 1823, 1826 and 1829, it was also necessary in 1832, and if it was not necessary in 1832, then it was not necessary in 1820, and all these enactments of the 57 Geo. 3, c. 15, which directed triennial returns are surplusage and powerless, and the intention of the legislature to prevent illicit importations of slaves by means of ascertaining, after the year 1817, the number of slaves at stated periods of three years within the island, and in what manner the persons holding had acquired them would have become a nullity. But I cannot so take it, the words "perfect lists or returns" are used both with respect to schedule (A.) and schedule (B.) The counsel for the defendant felt the force of this when put by the plaintiff's counsel, and he was about to contend that schedule (A.) was a registration, and schedule (B.) a mere return; but he could not support that argument on reference to the Act.

The law requires both kinds of returns for the purpose of enrollment in the same strong, operative language, in plain and express words it directs both the first and subsequent returns, and fixes a penalty for omission in the first return or any subsequent triennial return; it also requires, that the number of slaves of which the plaintiff formed one, and which had been progressively brought forward from the first triennial return in 1820 up to 1829, should have been stated "in the first place," in a return to be made in 1832, and his decrease, if by death or purchase, accounted for. The defendant might have ascertained by a search in the secretary's office if the plaintiff had been registered, and the 19th clause of 57 Geo. 3, afforded him

him means when he purchased the plaintiff in 1833, to apply to the governor at any time before the 31st August in that year to amend the defective return of 1832. In considering this case, I have not allowed myself to look at the Abolition Acts as laws in favour of liberty, while I have viewed the Registry Act as a highly penal statute, yet I cannot come to any other conclusion than that I have already stated. I am of opinion that the plaintiff being on the 28th of June 1832 in possession of the same person who registered him as of the 28th of June 1829, and that person not having included him in any list or return as of the 28th of June 1832, and he in point of fact not being included in any list or return, was not duly registered in conformity with the 57 Geo. 3, c. 15, that therefore he did not pass into apprenticeship under the first clause of the 3 & 4 Will. 4, c. 73, and consequently that, as he was not subject to any of the obligations imposed by that Act, he became under the 12th clause to all intents and purposes free and for ever manumitted.

His Honor the Chief then delivered the judgment of the majority of the court, as follows:—

This is an action *Homine replegiando*, brought for the purpose of deciding whether the plaintiff is entitled to his unqualified freedom, or whether he is under the obligation of serving the defendant in the capacity of a prædial apprentice; and, as there was no dispute about the facts, the counsel very properly consented to the finding of a special verdict, which is as follows:—"That the plaintiff was registered as a slave in possession on the 28th June 1817, 1820, 1823, 1826 and 1829; that the plaintiff was not registered in 1832, or at any time subsequent to 1829; that he came by sale into the possession of defendant by purchase in May 1833, and that there was no opportunity to make any subsequent registration."

This state of facts raises the question, whether, in the case of this plaintiff, there has been such a registration of him as a slave as will place him within the class of persons who, under the first section of the Abolition Act, become apprentice labourers.

It is impossible to say that the case is without difficulty, which it was scarcely within the power of the legislature to avoid, when it is considered that the Act was to have operation within 19 colonies, in many, if not all of which, the laws relating to the registration of slaves are different; and therefore it is incumbent on us to discover, if we can, what was the intention of Parliament, and see whether that intention cannot be fully and effectually worked out, and the rights of individuals still preserved. This intention is, in our opinion, clearly evidenced by the preamble, and the enacting part of the 1st section, which was not to deprive the owners of slaves altogether of their services, but to convert into apprentices all persons held in slavery above the age of six years, and who had been duly registered as slaves, and therefore all in whose case these circumstances are not found are absolutely manumitted.—That the plaintiff before the passing of the Abolition Act was holden in slavery, and above the age of six years there is no doubt, and therefore the main point we have to consider is, what will satisfy the words "all persons who, in conformity with the laws now in force in the said colonies respectively, shall, on or before the 1st day of August 1834, have been duly registered as slaves in such colony."

On this point it was contended, on the part of the plaintiff, that, as the Registration Act makes a triennial return of slaves necessary, if any one return is wanting there is no registration; and that, therefore, although the plaintiff was beyond all dispute legally held in slavery, but was not returned by his owner in 1832, he is absolutely free, and the defendant cannot now claim his services as an apprentice. If this argument on the part of the plaintiff be good, it must go to this extent, that any one omission of a return since 1817 would render a slave free; as for instance, none in 1820, but regularly since that year, including 1832. I do not recollect that the argument was pushed to this extent, as the learned counsel appeared to rely on the want of a return at the last period preceding the Abolition Act; but if the position be correct, that to convert a slave into an apprentice there must have been an exact compliance with the provisions of the Registration Act, viz. a triennial return, then whether the omission be of an intermediate year since 1817 or of 1832, the slaves not returned must now be free: I cannot conceive that any one will contend that a slave registered with all the formalities required in 1817, and returned, with the exception of one intermediate period, regularly to 1832 inclusive, would not now be an apprentice; and, if such an omission would not work his freedom, I cannot bring my mind to the conclusion that the neglect to return in 1832 only would deprive the master of the apprenticeship term; but for the defendant it was said, that duly registered as a slave is to be taken only as *prima facie* evidence of the servile condition of the party, and that any one registration by which his complete identity can be established is sufficient to convert him into an apprentice, leaving him to establish that he has been illegally returned as a slave. To decide this point, it is necessary to consider the Registration Act of this island (57 Geo. 3, c. 15), passed "to guard against any possible infringement of the laws for abolishing the slave trade, and also to provide a more particular return of the slaves in this island," and see whether the facts in this case show such a registration as the 3 & 4 Will. 4, requires. The first section of the Registration Act directs, that on or before the 28th September then next following, a return shall be made of all slaves according to the form prescribed by schedule (A.), which states the name, sex, colour, age and nation, every thing which is in fact necessary to a complete identity of each slave; and the 4th section requires a triennial return, but in which, if there has been no increase by birth or purchase, or decrease by death or sale, the total of males and females is only stated, so that no registration, excepting the first, when there has been no change of property, would give any evidence of identity. The 12th section imposes

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a penalty on persons not making the return, whether the first or the triennial one, which, under the 13th section, is recoverable by action of debt, and, when recovered, the Attorney-general under the 14th section is to file an information *ex officio*; and the issue to be tried is, whether there has been an illegal importation of Africans or slaves, and the person against whom the penalty has been recovered may take the defence in his own name, and plead not guilty, and thereunder prove that the slaves included in the information were not imported contrary to the slave trade abolition laws; and, by the 16th section, if the verdict shall be found, and judgment given for the defendant, the slaves in such information shall be held and enjoyed in the same estate as before the trial, and the original return shall be amended, or a new return made, under an order of the judges of the court in which the issue was tried. It is clear, therefore, that under this Act a slave did not become free by reason of any omission to register, and equally clear that he might be legally held in slavery, notwithstanding non-registration. Did the 3 & 4 Will. 1, intend to place the owners of slaves in a worse situation than they were under the Registry Act of this island, or did the Emancipation Bill require more than such a registry as would give *prima facie* evidence of servile condition, and clear evidence of identity? We think it did not. The 1st section states that all persons duly registered as slaves (*as slaves* being important words in the construction of this Act) shall become apprenticed labourers. Now, what is duly registered as slaves? We think it means that record of the parties' name, age, sex, colour and nation, which in this case was made in 1817, and not the gross numbers by triennial returns. In confirmation of this, the 12th section of the 3 & 4 Will. 4, may be looked to, which declares that, subject to the obligations imposed by the Act upon apprenticed labourers, all persons who, on the 1st August 1834, shall be holden in slavery within any British colony shall, after the 1st August, become and be to all intents and purposes free, and discharged of and from all manner of slavery, and shall be absolutely and for ever manumitted, which, we consider, clearly shows that all persons legally held in slavery, and of whose servile condition there is evidence in any one registration, shall become apprenticed labourers. Whilst this construction of the Act preserves the right which the defendant had in the services of the plaintiff before the Abolition Act for the term of the apprenticeship, which, we think, may fairly be considered as a part of the compensation, it works no injustice to the plaintiff, as he was a person legally held in slavery, and had been registered as a slave, with all the particulars of his name, age, sex, colour and nation. That the 1st section only requires such a registration as contains all the particulars just mentioned, which shows the servile condition of the plaintiff, is, in our opinion, further shown by the fact that two classes of individuals, viz. children under six years, and slaves who have been taken to England, are declared unconditionally free. If the Legislature had intended that any one omission of a triennial return should work the freedom of a slave, where there is a full and complete registration of him on record, with all those particulars which are sufficient to establish his identity, we think there would have been a distinct enactment to that effect. None such, however, is to be found. The view we have taken of this case appears to me to be, in principle, the same as that of the Mauritius case by the privy council, and their decision is, I think, conclusive of the right of the defendant to the apprenticeship of the plaintiff. The point before the privy council was, so far as we have been able to ascertain the facts, whether the omission of some public officer to register the returns in the year 1832, made the slaves free under the 3 & 4 Will. 4, on the ground that they were not duly registered in conformity with the laws in force in that island. Now, if the slaves by the operation of that Act had an absolute right to unqualified freedom by any omission to make the return required by the laws of the island, then no matter by whom that omission were made, they should have been declared unconditionally free, and the owners who had been damnified by the neglect of a public officer would have had their remedy against him; and as this case is put on the ground that there is a right in all slaves to freedom, who have not been returned at any one period, and the privy council having by their decision denied such right in the Mauritius case, and as I am unable to distinguish any substantial difference in principle between an omission made by a public officer or the owner, we think, as I before said, this decision is conclusive of the defendant's right to the apprenticeship of the plaintiff.—Many other points were pressed on the attention of the court which we do not think it necessary to notice. We have given this case our best attention, and shall feel much satisfaction if our judgment should undergo the revision of a court of error. We are of opinion that the facts found in this special verdict make such a registration as the Abolition Act required to convert a slave into an apprentice, and therefore the verdict must be entered for the defendant.

Enclosure 2, in No. 20.

Encl. 2, in No. 20.

Sir,

27 August 1837.

I HAVE the honour to return you the postscript of the St. Jago Gazette of the 10th June 1837, and to say, that the report it contains of the judgment of the court in the case of Bayley v. Ewart is correct.

Captain Warren.

I am, &c.

(signed) J. Rowe, c. J.

Enclosure

Enclosure 3, in No. 20.

Sir,

Bernard Lodge, 18 August 1837.

Encl. 3, in No. 20.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday, enclosing a newspaper of the 10th June, and conveying the wish of his Excellency the Governor, that I should state if it contained a correct report of the judgment pronounced by me in the cause of *Bayley v. Ewart*. In reply, I beg to inform you, that the report of my opinion contained in that paper is correct.

Captain Warren.

I have, &c.

(signed) *T. J. Bernard.*

Enclosure 4, in No. 20.

Sir,

9 September 1837.

Encl. 4, in No. 20.

I HAVE to state for the Governor's information, that in *Bayley v. Ewart* the attorney for the plaintiff has sent the proceedings to the secretary for the colonies. I cannot coincide with the decision of the majority of the court in that case. The words "in conformity with the laws now in force, &c. &c. &c. shall on or before the 1st of August 1834 have been duly registered" refer to the perfection of a matter existing, and not to a matter past and gone; if the letter of the Act is strictly examined, it will be found to refer to slaves then registered duly according to the laws then in force; the spirit of the Act must be the same, for it would be absurd to suppose that the Legislature intended to give the same benefit of apprenticeship to owners, who, by not duly registering their slaves, had incurred a forfeiture of 100*l.* for each, and who had by such neglect *prima facie* forfeited them to the Crown, as to those who duly observed the law. I need not dilate on the arguments of the respective judges, as they fully enter on the question themselves.

I have, &c.

(signed) *D. O'Reilly.*

—No. 21.—

(No. 179.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K. C. B.

Sir,

Downing-street, 13 November 1837.

No. 21.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 8th of September, enclosing a copy of the judgment of the grand court of the county of Middlesex, in Jamaica, in the case of *Bayley v. Ewart*, in which the right of the plaintiff to be discharged from his apprenticeship, on the ground that he was not registered as a slave in the year 1832, was discussed, and the court decided against that claim. The judgment of the court in this instance is opposed to the opinions of the legal advisers of the Crown in this kingdom and in Jamaica. It is further opposed by, at least, one of the judges of the court by which the sentence was pronounced: I must add (though fully aware of the immateriality of the statement as affecting the question of mere legal construction), that the meaning which the majority of the judges have attached to the Act of Parliament was certainly not the meaning which it was the design of Parliament to express. Under such circumstances, it is incumbent on me to do all in my power to bring the question under the cognizance of the judicial committee of the privy council.

You will, of course, have instructed the Attorney-general to consider whether it is competent to the Court of Error, in Jamaica, to take cognizance of this case, under the additional instruction transmitted to you in my despatch, No. 129, of the 15th August.

If there is no technical impediment to that proceeding, it will be the Attorney-general's duty to adopt it, in whatever manner may be most conducive to the full and impartial investigation and decision of the real question in debate.

If it shall appear impracticable to sue out a writ of error for the reversal of this judgment, the Attorney-general will consider whether, in the same or in some other case, the question cannot be revived so as to overcome any difficulties of form which may at present obstruct the revision of it by the superior tribunals.

If it should appear to him that the technical difficulties are insuperable, he will report to you fully what is the posture of the case, and what the nature of the obstacles which prevent the review of the judgment by the Court of Error. It

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will then remain to be considered whether, in respect of the importance and general interest of the matter in debate, the judicial committee of the privy council would not, on a special application, deviate from their ordinary rules, and make an order for the admission of the appeal, although the usual forms had not been, and could not be, complied with. I have reason to believe that occasional deviations of this kind from the ordinary practice of that tribunal have been made. But before such an application could be addressed to their Lordships with any prospect of success, it is, I believe, indispensable that they should be satisfied that relief is not to be obtained in the regular course of proceeding. Upon topics of this kind, however, I necessarily write with doubt and self-distrust; it is sufficient for me to state, in general, that I shall rely upon the Attorney-general of Jamaica for leaving unattempted no method by which he may think it possible to surmount such technical difficulties as oppose the bringing before the supreme court of appeal that important point of law upon which the judges of Jamaica are at present disagreed amongst themselves, and upon which the majority of them differ from the legal advisers of the Crown, both in this kingdom and in the colony. As the future course which it will be incumbent in Her Majesty's Government to adopt, with reference to this question, may depend on the practicability of prosecuting this appeal, I have to request that you will favour me with an answer to this despatch at your earliest convenience.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Glenelg.*

— No. 22.—

(No. 241.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B., to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 22.

My Lord,

Spanish Town, 26 December 1837.

REFERRING to your Lordship's letter, No. 179, dated 13th ult., I now beg to inform you that I have issued a writ for a Court of Error, to try the appeal in the case of *Bayley v. Ewart*, and that I do not apprehend any difficulty whatever to its proceedings.

The court shall be assembled as soon as possible, and no time shall be lost in laying the result of the appeal before your Lordship.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Lionel Smith.*

— No. 23.—

(No. 178.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B., to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 23.

My Lord,

Spanish Town, 14 September 1837.

WITH reference to my despatch, No. 145, of the 25th last July, I have now the honour to enclose for your Lordship's information the accompanying letter from Mr. Attorney-general, on some of the cases affecting apprentices decided in June grand court, referred to in Mr. Hill's report which accompanied that despatch.

I beg leave at the same time to transmit Mr. Attorney-general's report, in answer to the instruction conveyed in your Lordship's despatch, No. 34, of the 13th January last, respecting certain bills of indictment sent up by three special magistrates, which were rejected by the grand jury of Middlesex, and to acquaint your Lordship that, acting under this opinion, no further measures have been taken against any of the parties in the cases referred to.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Lionel Smith.*

Enclosure

No. 1, 9 Sept.

No. 2, 9 Sept.

*Vide Papers relative
to the Abolition of
Slavery, 1837,
Part 4 (1), p. 148.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 23.

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ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S Opinion referred to by Mr. *Hill*, in his Report on certain Decisions of the Grand Court.

Sir,

9 September 1837. Encl. 1, in No. 23.

IN the case of *Harris v. Lowndes*, the supreme court ruled as stated by Mr. Special Justice and Assistant Secretary Hill in his report, also as he states in *Mason v. Oldrey*; similarly to such report did the court rule in the criminal information against Hendricks, and in the case of *Bayley v. Ewart*. In the criminal information against Mason, though the counsel argued as Mr. Hill states, I cannot say the court went that length.

I am, &c.

G. R. Warren, Esq., Assistant Secretary.

(signed) D. O'Reilly.

Enclosure 2, in No. 23.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S Opinion in Reply to Despatch, No. 34, of 13 January 1837.

Sir,

9 September 1837. Encl. 2, in No. 23.

IN relation to different bills of indictment preferred at the October grand court, I beg to state for the Governor's information, that, considering the state of the country, and hoping much from the various assurances pressed on his Excellency, of anxiety on the part of the planting gentlemen to put an end to all past misunderstandings, and to aid in supporting the due administration of justice, I was of opinion it would not be prudent to revive these indictments in the shape of criminal information, save certain of them which went to support the magistrate in the due exercise of his office as special justice of the peace, and in which there was a wish on every side expressed to have the law determined. In these a report has been made by a special justice on the decisions and doctrines laid down or supported by the judges of the supreme court, on which I have made a separate report. I have only to add, that I am of opinion that the cases sent for prosecution by indictment by the special justices before the grand jury were such as they were well justified in sending, and I have no reason to apprehend that the facts were not proved in what would have been to a legal mind a satisfactory manner.

I have, &c.

G. R. Warren, Esq., Private Secretary.

(signed) D. O'Reilly.

— No. 24. —

(No. 194.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B.

Sir,

Downing-street, 15 December 1837.

No. 24.

I HAVE received your despatch, No 178, of the 14th September, enclosing the report for which you informed me, in your despatch, No. 145, of the 25th July last, you had called on the Attorney-general of Jamaica, relative to Mr. Hill's report on certain decisions of the supreme court of judicature on disputed points in the Abolition Law.

From the very concise terms of the Attorney-general's report, I can only infer that Mr. Hill's statement was in general correct, but it affords me no means of judging whether the Attorney-general concurs in the interpretation thus placed on the law, or to what extent it may be in the power of the executive government to apply a remedy to the evils which could scarcely fail to ensue from a general application of the principles laid down by the court.

In one case, indeed, that of *Rex v. Mason*, I collect from this report that Mr. Hill had mistaken the argument of counsel for the ruling of the court, and I trust that no special magistrate will hold himself exempt from the obligation of dealing with a case of the neglect of a sick apprentice as one of cruelty, and therefore clearly coming within his jurisdiction. If any doubt is entertained on this point, it will be desirable to remove it by an official instruction to the special magistrates.

I abstain from adverting here to the point raised in the case of *Bayley v. Ewart*, because I have fully entered into it in previous despatches; and I have the satisfaction of knowing that the course which you have pursued, with my entire approbation on this subject, will effectually prevent any parties affected by the decision of the court in this case from being subjected to the apprenticeship pending the appeal which is to be brought against that decision. Should the law ultimately appear to have been correctly interpreted by the court, I have no doubt that Parliament would readily interpose to obviate the hardship which would arise from the dismissal of the appeal.

The decisions in the cases, "*Mason v. Oldrey*," and "*Harris v. Lowndes*," seem to me calculated so injuriously to abridge the jurisdiction of the special magistrates,

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that I should have wished to be informed of the degree of practical inconvenience which had arisen, or was likely to arise, from the rules which appear to have been laid down in these cases. I trust that you will not have hesitated to press on the consideration of the legislature the obvious duty of altering the law in any respect in which experience has proved it to operate prejudicially to the right of the apprentices to demand that protection from the special magistrates which it was the great object of their appointment to effect. You will, I have no doubt, have considered how far your executive authority could arm the special magistrates with a larger power of receiving and investigating complaints. On this subject, I have to request that you will, as early as practicable, furnish me with the fullest information.

As the decision on the criminal information against Hendricks is clearly connected with a subject on which the most ample inquiry has already been instituted, I need not further advert to it here than to remind you of my former instructions, that the special magistrates should desist from committing apprenticed labourers to places of confinement where abuses prevail beyond the reach of the executive government or of the special magistrates; nor will they feel themselves bound to substitute any other punishment when the nature of the offence would not imperatively call for it. It is to be distinctly understood that the labour of the apprentices is not to be enforced for the benefit of the employers by punishments to the nature of which the strongest possible objections are justly entertained, arising from defects either in the administration of prison discipline, or in the regulation of places of confinement, and which it is in the power of the local legislature effectually to remove.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Glenelg*.

— No. 25.—

(No. 195.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K. C. B.

No. 25.

Sir,

Downing-street, 15 December 1837.

I HAVE received your despatch, No. 178, of the 14th of September, enclosing two reports from the Attorney-general, dated the 9th of that month. The first of these has reference to a letter from Mr. Hill, transmitted in your despatch, No. 145, of the 25th of July, on which I have addressed you in a separate despatch. The other appears to be intended for the report for which in my despatch of the 13th of January, No. 34, you were instructed to call upon the Attorney-general, on certain bills of indictment preferred at the instance of Messrs. Harris, Palmer and Baynes, and ignored by the grand jury of Middlesex.

I regret that this report does not appear to meet the question at issue, and I cannot regard it as a satisfactory termination of the correspondence.

In July 1836 certain abuses were discovered in the workhouse of St. John's parish. At the ensuing assizes, bills of indictment were duly preferred against the parties, supported by evidence which, upon the face of the documents transmitted to me, seemed to me to be such as ought to have induced the grand jury to place the accused parties upon their trial. Those bills were all ignored. I then desired that the matter might not be allowed to rest there, but that in each of those cases in which the Attorney-general should report to you that the evidence was such as in his opinion "ought to induce a conviction" a criminal information should be exhibited, without reference to the probability of obtaining a verdict. The Attorney-general (so far as I am able to conjecture from the language which he employs) appears to have made no distinct report on the cases referred to him, but to have considered them among several others of a similar nature which were before him at the time, and to have selected from the mass some few which he deemed it politic to prosecute. The cases in question do not appear to have been among that number.

If I am correct in supposing that this is the course which has been adopted, I am unable to acquiesce in the propriety of letting these cases drop. I infer from the Attorney-general's report, that the evidence was "such as in his opinion ought to have induced a conviction." I am left, therefore, to presume that they

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Vide Papers relative to the Abolition of Slavery, 1837, Part 4 (1), p. 148.

are among those which, considering the state of the country, and hoping much from the various assurances to which he has referred, he was of opinion it would not be prudent to revive in the shape of criminal informations. If I had sufficient grounds to satisfy me that the object to be obtained, namely, the prevention of the recurrence of cases of this nature would be more effectually promoted by abstaining from further proceedings than by adopting the course which I had pointed out, I should be disposed to concur in the view taken by the Attorney-general, but I regret to say that I am unable to derive any such assurance from the information which has been transmitted to me. The hope which is here expressed rests, so far as I can judge from the various communications which have reached me, on no substantial grounds, and I see no satisfactory reason for abstaining from using all the powers which the law sanctions in the attempt to bring to justice parties charged with such grave and serious offences. The time which has now elapsed since the origin of these cases may render it impracticable to carry on legal proceedings with a reasonable prospect of success; but I have to request, that unless you are decidedly of opinion that the ends of justice would rather be defeated than promoted by a renewal of the prosecutions, you will inform the Attorney-general that I see no reason for recalling or modifying the instructions which I conveyed to him through you in my despatch of the 13th January last.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Glenelg.*

Vide Papers
relative to the Abolition of Slavery,
1837. Part 4 (1),
page 148.

— 6. —

HOURS AND SCALES OF LABOUR.

— No. 26. —

(No. 103.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K. C. B.

No. 20.

Sir,

Downing-street, 10 June 1837.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 13th March last, No. 78, in which you inform me of the failure of your endeavour to induce the Assembly of Jamaica to agree to an alteration in the law for regulating uniformity in the hours of labour. I fully approve of the message which you sent to the Assembly on this subject, and I much regret that they did not feel it right to concur in the view which you had taken of it. I trust that the exertions of the special magistrates, acting under the directions conveyed to them in your circular letter of the 16th September 1836, together with an enlightened regard to the common interests of themselves and their apprenticed labourers, on the part of the employers, will tend in some degree to remedy the existing defect in the law, and to lessen, if not wholly to remove, the discontent which has been found to arise from the past want of uniformity. I attach much importance to the strict observance of the practice adverted to in the concluding paragraph of your circular letter of the 16th September.

It has been alleged that the apprentices have, in many instances, been deprived of a portion of their own time by their ignorance of the precise commencement and termination of the period fixed by law for their labour. I trust that this complaint has no general foundation; but on this point the special magistrates cannot exercise too great vigilance, not only to secure the apprentices against any actual encroachment on their own time, but to remove from their minds all suspicion of illegal or unfair treatment in this respect. The same observation is applicable to the scale of labour to be adopted for the regulation of task-work. I am happy to find that your attention has been directed to this subject, and I have to request that you will transmit to me, when complete, the scale to which you refer, as in course of preparation.

I must further express my regret that the allowance of fish should in any case be withheld from apprentices who, during the legal hours of labour, afford their masters no reasonable ground of complaint. I entirely concur in the view taken of this subject by the Committee of the House of Commons last Session, on the working of the apprenticeship system; nor can I disguise the opinion which I entertain, that the absence of a liberal and generous treatment of the apprentices in matters in which the law has left a discretion with their employers would have a most prejudicial effect on the future welfare and prosperity of the colony. It is to the habits and feelings of mutual good-will and common interest which may grow up between the apprentices and their employers during the present intermediate state that I should be disposed to look with confidence for the successful result of complete and unrestricted emancipation. The period is rapidly approaching when this emancipation will be effected, and I earnestly hope that the conduct of the great body of proprietors in Jamaica will in the meantime be such as to merit and secure the confidence and good-will of those whose continued services as free labourers will hereafter be essential to the interests of all classes of the community.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Glenelg*.

Vide Papers presented to Parliament relative to the Abolition of Slavery, 1837, Part 4 (1.), p. 241.

— No. 27. —

(No. 149.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K. C. B.,
to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 27.

My Lord,

King's House, 28 July 1837.

I HAVE the honour to enclose you herewith Scales of Labour for the different parishes in this island, wanting two, not yet completed.

Printed Scales of
Labour.
18.

The delay has been a source of great vexation to me, and they are not yet in general operation in consequence; for, after I had got them printed, there was no means of conveyance to the distant parishes.

Portland, St.
George's, wanting.

In the immediate neighbourhood of the seat of government, where the experiment has been put in practice, I am most happy to acquaint your Lordship it has produced the best consequences, and given mutual satisfaction to masters and servants.

My instructions for the regulation of this system will be found among the circulars to the special magistrates.

Circular, No. 1028,
24 June 1837. See
Despatch, No. 152,
of 28th July.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Lionel Smith*.

Enclosure in No. 27.

SCALE of LABOUR for an able First-gang Labourer for a Day of Nine Hours, for the Parish of *Hanover*.

Enclosure in
No. 27.

Digging.

Digging cane-holes 4 feet square, 6 inches deep—Upon heavy clay soil, 90 holes for men, 30 for women; upon mould or marl or clay, 100 for men, 90 for women; upon very light sandy soil, 110 for men, 100 for women.

Cultivating.

Dropping dung from heaps near at hand—Upon level land, 12 labourers per acre; upon hill sides, 15 ditto per ditto.

Planting canes, plants being near at hand—12 ditto per ditto.

Dropping dung and planting, the dung being at the rate of 70 cart-loads per acre—27 ditto per ditto.

Ditto ditto, at the rate of 50 loads per acre—22 ditto per ditto.

Planting corn—2 ditto per ditto.

First cleaning of young plants—10 ditto per ditto; ditto, if foul, 14 ditto per ditto.

Second cleaning of plants, giving half bank—10 ditto per ditto; third cleaning of ditto, giving remaining bank, 10 ditto per ditto.

Turning trash on rattoons not requiring cleaning—5 ditto per ditto.

Hoe ploughing rattoons, digging round cane roots—25 ditto per ditto.

Hoe ploughing rattoons, dropping manure round cane roots, and covering with mould and trash—35 ditto per ditto.

Trashing canes, not requiring cleaning—6 ditto per ditto.

Trashing ditto, if heavy—9 ditto per ditto.

Trashing ditto, if heavy and much lodged—11 ditto per ditto.

Cleaning and moulding rattoons, not requiring supplies—9 ditto per ditto.

Cleaning and moulding rattoons, requiring supplies—10 ditto to 20 per ditto.

Cutting and carrying Manure.

Mule loads of grass, one grass cutter (2d gang) to cut per day—10 loads.

Mule loads of long tops, one tyer (2d gang) to pick and tie per day—15 ditto.

Number of turns one muleman and two mules to make per day, at half a mile—14 turns.

Number of ditto ditto ditto ditto, quarter of a mile—17 ditto.

Number of ditto one cart containing nine mule loads of grass or long tops can make per day, at half a mile—9 ditto.

Ditto ditto ditto ditto, at quarter of ditto—12 ditto.

Number of turns one cart containing 80 baskets manure can make per day—at half a mile, 15, with three loaders; at quarter ditto, 20, with three ditto.

JAMAICA.*Cutting Canes.*

Three cutters to every 2 hogsheads of sugar (averaging 1,800 gallons liquor each), made per week of 40½ hours; one tyer (2d gang) to every two cutters.

Grinding.

A common vertical mill, with 10 cattle, to grind from plants 250 gallons per hour; ditto ditto from rattoons, 200 gallons per ditto.

Grinding and Manufacturing.

A common vertical mill, with mules, to grind from plants 300 gallons per hour; ditto ditto for rattoons, 250 gallons per ditto.

Two mill-feeders, three cane and three green-trash carriers, and three dry-trash carriers, (2d gang) to make five hogsheads sugar (of 1,800 gallons each) per week.

One boiler-man to each copper, and one syphon-man attending syphons. If the work of the boiling-house is stopped, these persons employed in potting sugar, or otherwise.

Carrying Canes.

Number of turns which one cart with canes can make per day to mill—At three-quarters of a mile, 10 loads with one loader; at half a mile, 15 hands with one ditto; at quarter of a mile, 20 loads with two ditto; at less than quarter of a mile, 25 loads with two ditto.

Number of turns which one muleman and two mules with canes can make per day to mill—At half a mile, 20 turns; at quarter of a mile, 25 ditto; at less, 30 ditto.

Pastures.

Number of labourers—To dig holes for planting Guinea-grass, 10 per acre; to plant grass, plants laid on the spot, 10 per acre.

Number of labourers—To clean Guinea or common grass, cleaned every year, 5 per acre; to ditto ditto ditto, cleaned every second year, 7 per acre.

Coopers.

Cooper should dress up staves from the rough and truss off—Of sugar hogsheads, 3 hogsheads in 2 days each; of rum puncheons, 3 puncheons in 2 days each.

Ditto should hoop off and put in bottom for curing-house—2 hogsheads in 1 day each.

Ditto should dress up staves from the rough, hoop off, and finish complete—Of sugar hogsheads, 1 hogshead in 1 day each; of rum puncheons, 2 puncheons in 3 days each.

Ditto should prepare heads from boards, and head up ready for wharf—if prepared for him, 10 hogsheads per day; if not prepared, 8 hogsheads per day.

Carpenters.

Carpenters should cross-cut and split free-grained wood into 170 shingles or staves in one day each.

Ditto should shingle a square per day, rough-jointing his own shingles.

Ditto ditto ditto of hip, shingles being previously prepared, 16 feet per day.

Ditto should fine-joint and saw to a length, 500 American or 350 country shingles each per day.

Ditto should dig out 10 mortices of pitch-pine each per day.

Sawyers and Wheelwrights.

Sawyers should saw 50 feet hard wood or 80 feet soft wood, as cedar, &c., for a pair in one day, the log being previously pitted and lined.

Wheelwrights should finish from wood in the rough, 1 pair of cartwheels ready for the tyers, 2 wheelwrights in 2 weeks.

Ditto should dress from wood in the rough, 12 spokes or 6 fellies each per day.

Masons.

Masons should build stone walls 5 feet high, 3½ feet at base, and 18 inches at top, at the rate of 6 masons and 2 boys to fill in, 1 chain per day, the materials being laid down for them.

Ditto should break stones, small for roads, intervals, &c., 12 bushels each per day; larger for lime-kiln, &c., 18 ditto per ditto.

Provisions.

Cultivation of provisions:—Woodland—to fall and log woodland—20 labourers per acre per day; to fall, log, heap, and burn woodland—25 ditto per ditto.

Ditto:—Ruininate—to clean off heavy ruininate land—15 ditto per ditto; to clean off light ditto—10 ditto per ditto.

Ditto:—Yams—to dig hole and bank 25 inches deep, and plant off, in stiff soil—50 holes per day each; to ditto ditto ditto ditto, in light ditto, 65 ditto ditto ditto.

Plantains:—To dig holes 12 inches deep, and plant off—100 ditto ditto ditto.

Cocoas:—To ditto ditto 10 ditto ditto ditto—250 ditto ditto ditto.

To clean one acre of young provisions and corn, not very foul—10 labourers per day.

To ditto ditto ditto ditto, if foul—15 ditto per ditto.

Ginger.

Cultivation of ginger :—Clearing off and preparing for hoe ploughing in pasture land—
20 labourers per acre.

Ditto ditto ditto in ruinate grounds—25 ditto per ditto.

First ploughing with hoe—In stiff soils, 30 ditto per ditto; in light soils, 25 ditto per ditto.

Second ploughing and clearing off rubbish—25 ditto per ditto.

Planting at the rate of 4,000 lbs. cured plants to the acre—25 ditto per ditto.

Cleaning—The first time, 25 ditto per ditto; the second time and moulding, 16 ditto per ditto; third time, 10 ditto per ditto.

To dig out, carry home, and scrape—27 lbs. net per day per labourer.

To scrape (digging and carrying done by others)—32 lbs. net per day per labourer.

John V. Purrier,

Chairman of the Meeting for Hanover.

At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Parish of Vere, the following Scale of Labour, by Effective Apprenticed Labourers, was agreed to as adapted to the Parish, Nine Hours.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK.	Quantity of Work to be Performed.
Digging cane-holes on land, where canes have been recently cut, 1 feet by 4 feet 3 inches wide at top, 9 inches at bottom, and 9 inches deep, on dry soil, performed in seasonable weather.	80 holes per day.
Ditto, in dry weather - - - - -	60 - ditto.
Ditto, if not in cultivation 12 months previously - - - - -	70 - ditto.
Ditto, in loamy, sandy, or other light soil - - - - -	110 - ditto.
Number of labourers required to plant a piece of canes dug as above, plant tops 30 inches apart.	8 per acre.
Number of labourers required to weed an acre of young plant-canes, if permitted to get very foul.	from 7 to 9.
Ditto, if not permitted to get foul - - - - -	from 5 to 7.
Number of wain loads of manure which can be sent out by one wain in a day, at a distance of a mile and a half, and the number of persons sufficient to load it.	9 loads, and 3 persons to load it.
Number of persons required to take and distribute manure, say 60 wain loads per acre.	25.
Number of labourers required to bank an acre of plant-canes -	10.
Number of labourers required to turn trash on an acre of canes, if no grass.	3.
Number of labourers who can cover an acre of young plants with trash, the latter being in the intervals round the piece.	4.
Number of labourers who can weed and mould an acre of canes, the first time subsequent to being cut, if very foul.	8.
Number of labourers required to weed and turn trash on an acre of canes, second time, if not permitted to get foul.	6.
Number of labourers who can cut canes sufficient to make 1 hogsh-head of sugar per day, of 8 hours, supposing the canes to make 2 hogshheads per acre.	7.
Number of loaders for 1 hogshhead, 2d class of apprentices -	4.
Number of wains required to supply the mill with canes, per day of 8 hours, 1½ miles distant, each wain having 1 man, 1 boy, and 6 steers, for 1 hogshhead sugar.	2.
Number of labourers required to bill pastures, if permitted to get very foul, and thickly overgrown with bush.	8 per acre.
Ditto Guinea-grass pastures that have been billed twice per annum	2 per acre.
Ditto windrowing and digging corn-holes on land, not being for some time in cultivation, the holes to be 4 feet by 1 foot apart, in stiff soil.	10 per acre.
Ditto, in sandy or light soil - - - - -	7.
Ditto, digging corn-holes recently burnt off - - - - -	5 per acre, average of soils.
Ditto, planting corn-holes with seed corn - - - - -	1 per acre.
Number of bushels of Guinea-corn which can be reaped by a labourer per day.	8.
Number of bushels of Guinea-corn which can be threshed and winnowed by a labourer per day.	9.
Number of labourers required to cut copper wood - - - - -	1 to each cord 8×4 ×4 feet.

JAMAICA.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK.	Quantity of Work to be Performed.
Number of labourers which can dig and plant a chain of penguins and ditch fence, ditch 6 feet wide and 5 feet deep, the penguins to be on the ground.	10.
Number of labourers required to clean the furrows after the double mould plough, well ploughed.	15 per acre.
A 12-horse power steam-engine is sufficient to make 20 hogsheads sugar in 80 hours, or 2 hogsheads in a day of 8 hours, with the following mill-gang; viz., 1 boatswain, 2 feeders, 5 cane-carriers, 1 stoker, 1 to carry fuel, 2 cart-boys for trash, 1 gutter cleaner, 1 engineer, a well-regulated cattle-mill and effective stock, supposing the cane-piece to make 2 hogsheads per acre, 8 hours per day.	4 hogsheads per week.
One cooper to make 1 hogshead per day from red-oak staves.	
Country-staves, 3 coopers to make 2 hogsheads.	
One cooper to make 1 puncheon per day, with puncheon packs.	
One ditto to make 1 puncheon in 2 days, rough staves.	

5 January 1837.

Charles Sconce,
William Dowell,
Crawford M'Clymont, } Committee appointed by
William Lewis, } Mr. Custos Murchison.

JAMAICA SS.—*St. Catherine*.—At a numerous Meeting of the Planters and other Inhabitants of *St. Catherine*, holden in the Court House on the 25th day of November 1836, to take into consideration and fix a fair Scale of Labour, as suggested by his Excellency the Governor in his Circular addressed to the several Custodes, on the 14th October last, the following Rates were, after due examination of competent Persons, agreed to, as those which may reasonably be expected to be performed by a Labourer or Labourers in Nine Hours.

Cultivation.	Description of Work to be Performed.	Number of Labourers, &c.
SUGAR :		
1. Cane-holes - -	-- Digging cane-holes 4 feet square, the soil in parish being all light loam, not exceeding 8 inches deep.	1 labourer 80 holes per day.
2. Planting canes - -	Tops being placed on the cane-piece	10 ditto per acre.
3. Cleaning - -	-- First cleaning and supplying of plants.	9 - ditto.
4. Manuring - -	Dropping dung from the interval -	17 - ditto.
5. Banking - -	Second cleaning and banking plants	12 - ditto.
6. Great corn - -	-- Planting great corn in canes, in each row.	1 - ditto.
7. Rattoons - -	-- Hoeing grass, turning trash, and moulding cane-stools.	7 - ditto.
Ditto - -	Second hoeing - - - -	5 - ditto.
8. Cutting canes - -	-- To make a hogshead of sugar on a piece yielding $1\frac{1}{2}$ hogshead per acre.	10 ditto per day.
Ditto - -	-- Ditto ditto ditto $\frac{3}{4}$ hogshead per acre.	15 - ditto.
9. Carrying canes - -	-- Number of wain loads of canes to be carried in a day, at the average distance of the cane-pieces in this parish.	16 loads per day.
10. Mill-house - -	-- Required about the mill, if a steam-engine on estate.	12 labourers per day.
Ditto - -	Ditto ditto ditto, if a water-mill -	10 - ditto.
Ditto - -	Ditto ditto ditto, if a cattle-mill -	13 - ditto.
11. Boiling-house - -	-- Ditto ditto the boiling-house, if a steam-engine.	11 - ditto.
Ditto - -	-- Ditto ditto ditto, if a water or cattle-mill.	9 - ditto.
12. Still-house - -	Ditto ditto, the still-house - -	2 - ditto.
13. Manure - -	-- Carrying out the manure, distance not more than half mile, two loaders to each wain.	12 loads per day.

JAMAICA.

Cultivation.	Description of Work to be Performed.	Number of Labourers, &c.
SUGAR—continued.		
14. Ploughed land - -	Opening cane-holes after the plough	12 labourers per acre.
15. Cooperage - -	-- To make one hogshead complete, per day.	1 efficient cooper.
Ditto - -	Ditto three tierces - - -	2 ditto.
Ditto - -	-- Ditto three puncheons per week, if from rough staves.	1 - ditto.
Ditto - -	Ditto five ditto ditto, if from packs	1 - ditto.
COFFEE:		
1. - - - -	-- Cleaning and suckering well established coffee.	11 labourers per acre.
	Ditto ditto old coffee-pieces - -	16 - ditto.
2. - - - -	-- Picking and carrying to barbagues from established full-bearing and pruned coffee.	Each labourer 3 bushels.
3. - - - -	-- Hand-picking and sorting for market well-cured fine averaged sample coffee.	Ditto 2 ditto.
PIMENTO: - -		
	-- One breaker being allowed to each four pickers.	Each picker 1½ bushel.
	Hand-picking, fanning, sorting, and bagging for market.	Each hand 5 bags.
CORN:		
1. Preparing land - -	-- Clearing cashew land of two years' growth, where the bush is thick, and heaping in readiness to burn.	10 labourers per acre.
2. - - - -	-- Clearing land when it has been previously cultivated, and of one year's growth, and heaping bushes.	7 ditto to the acre.
3. - - - -	-- When the land becomes cleared from a succession of crops.	5 - ditto.
4. Planting and cleaning	Digging holes in moist land - -	3 to acre of 5,000 holes.
5. - - - -	Digging holes in dry land - -	4 to - ditto.
6. - - - -	Planting the seed - - -	1 to - ditto.
7. - - - -	First hoeing of corn when foul - -	9 per acre.
8. - - - -	Second hoeing, when light - -	5 ditto.
9. - - - -	Singling, moulding, and suppling -	8 ditto.
WOOD CUTTING: - -		
	-- Cutting bundle-wood and wedging in packs.	12 10dy. bundles each labourer per.
	Ditto cord-wood, 1 cord 8 feet by 4 and 4, 1 per labourer per day.	
WOODLAND:		
1. Cleaning heavy woodland.	-- To clear an acre that will yield 20 cords wood, if not previously underwooded.	20 cording, 12 underwooding, & 6 to heap; total, 38.
2. - - - -	To underwood heavy woodland -	12 to the acre.
3. - - - -	To burn off bush when properly dry	3 to ditto.
	N. B.—According to the quantity of wood yielded per acre must the task be regulated.	
	Each man to be provided with an axe and cutlass, and each woman with a bill, for all preparations for woodland.	
	The second gang (<i>i. e.</i> children from 10 to 15 years of age) are considered to be able to perform a half or two-thirds the work of the able labourers on light work, such as hoeing corn and Guinea-grass, chopping pastures, &c. &c.	
FENCES:		
1. Making and repairing penguin fences.	-- Making a new fence 5 feet wide, 4 feet deep, tapering to 18 inches, at the - in a free loamy soil.	6 yards per labourer per day, not planting penguins.
2. - - - -	Ditto where the land is stiff - -	10 feet per ditto ditto.

JAMAICA.

Cultivation.	Description of Work to be Performed.	Number of Labourers, &c.
<i>FENCES—continued.</i>		
3. - - - - -	-- Stripping off the penguins, and facing an old bank where the bank is good.	7 yards per labourer per day.
4. - - - - -	-- Planting penguins, when laid in readiness on the bank, where the land is stiff.	4 chains per day each, and when stiff, 2 chains.
5. - - - - -	-- Pulling and trimming penguins when not scarce.	200 per labourer per day.
6. - - - - -	-- Digging the trench, and planting penguins on the spot.	1 chain per ditto each.
<i>N. B.—Each labourer to be provided with a shovel and hoe for ditching.</i>		
7. Stake and rail - - -	-- Two labourers to tie 100 feet (the posts being already in) with 14 rails.	
	To dig the holes - - - - -	30 per labourer.
	Putting and ramming in posts - -	30 per labourer.
<i>CUTTING STOCKADOES:</i>		
1. Cashaw - - - - -	- - - - -	60 per labourer.
2. Rails - - - - -	- - - - -	50 - ditto.
3. Posts - - - - -	Eight feet long - - - - -	20 - ditto.
4. Logwood - - - - -	- - - - -	9 labourers to the ton.
5. Ebony - - - - -	- - - - -	4 ditto to a cord.
MORTICE POSTS - - -	-- Making 10 of 3 holes, and 8 of 4, to each labourer.	
<i>GUINEA GRASS:</i>		
1. Cleaning, &c. - - -	-- To planting an acre of Guinea-grass (if plants are near at hand), and 1,200 holes to the acre.	12 labourers per acre.
2. - - - - -	To hoe an acre of Guinea-grass -	same as Guinea-grass.
3. - - - - -	To chop down rank Guinea-grass -	from 10 to 12 to acre.
4. Common pasture - -	To clean an acre of common pasture	4 per acre.
1. Cutting Guinea-grass, &c. - - - - -	-- When taken from the spot where cut by the wain.	60 bundles, 28lbs. each.
2. - - - - -	-- When taken to the gate of the grass-piece.	50 bundles, ditto.
3. - - - - -	-- When floated down the River Cobre to the barquadier.	40 ditto, ditto.
<i>These rates are supposing grass to be plentiful; when scarce, the quantity will be reduced according to the state of the weather, and at discretion.</i>		
BREAKING STONES - - -	-- To break 4 barrels, each stone to be about an inch square.	1 labourer per day.
BLASTING ROCKS - - -	-- Three holes of 18 inches deep per labourer per day.	
BRICKS - - - - -	Moulding stock-bricks - - - - -	2,000 per labourer.
WALLS - - - - -	-- Building dry walls 4½ feet high, all materials found on the spot, each two builders to complete.	33 feet.

Peter Wilkie, Custos.

SCALE of LABOUR which one able Labourer of First Gang is capable of performing in One Day of Nine Hours, in the Parish of *St. James*.

In Cultivation of the Sugar Cane and its Manufacture.

Digging:

Digging cane-holes, 4 feet square, 6 inches deep:

Upon heavy clay soil,—85 holes to each labourer, lands long under the cultivation of the cane.

Mould, upon clay - 90 - - - ditto - - - - - ditto.

— upon marl - 90 - - - ditto - - - - - ditto.

— mixed with stones, 90 - - - ditto - - - - - ditto.

Light soil - - - - 90 - - - ditto - - - - - ditto.

Sand or small shot - 100 - - - ditto - - - - - ditto.

Manure and its Carriage :

- Mule loads of grass one grass cutter (not very able) can cut per day,—10 loads.
 Mule loads of long cane-tops one person (not very able) can pick and tie up per day,—15 loads.
 Number of turns or trips one muleman working three mules can make per day, from grass-piece to cattle-pen,—12 trips at $\frac{1}{2}$ mile distance, 15 trips at $\frac{1}{4}$ mile distance.
 Number of turns or trips one man working two bullocks can make per day, from grass-piece to cattle-pen,—8 trips at $\frac{1}{2}$ mile distance, 10 trips at $\frac{1}{4}$ mile distance.
 Number of turns or trips one cart containing nine mule loads can make per day, from grass-piece to cattle-pen,—9 trips.
 Number of turns or trips one cart, containing 80 baskets of manure, can make per day, from cattle-pen to cane-piece,—half mile distance 15 trips, three loaders to assist loading; quarter mile distance 20 trips, four loaders to assist loading.

Cultivating :

- Dropping manure into cane-holes, the heaps being at a moderate distance,—upon level land, 12 labourers per acre, or 226 baskets per labourer; upon hill sides, 15 labourers per acre, or 181 baskets per labourer.
 Planting cane-holes, four tops to each hole, and covering over,—12 labourers per acre, or 226 holes per labourer.
 Planting corn,—2 per acre.
 Cleaning young cane-sprouts, not very grassy,—11 labourers per acre, or 247 holes per labourer.

— if foul,—15 labourers per acre, or 181 holes per labourer.

- Giving bank to young canes at the third time of cleaning,—11 labourers per acre, or 247 holes per labourer.

- Trashing plant-canes, 1st time,—10 labourers per acre, or 272 roots per labourer.

— 2d ditto,— 9 labourers per acre, or 302 - ditto.

— 3d ditto,— 9 labourers per acre, or 302 - ditto.

— 4th ditto,— 7 labourers per acre, or 388 - ditto.

— 5th ditto,— 5 labourers per acre, or 544 - ditto.

- Turning trash upon rattoons (within eight weeks after cutting), five labourers per acre, or 544 roots per labourer.

- Hoe-ploughing rattoons, digging round cane-roots,—same labour as digging cane-holes.

— dropping manure round cane-roots, and covering with earth and trash,—upon level land, 18 labourers per acre, or 151 roots per labourer; upon hill sides, 24 labourers per acre, or 113 roots per labourer.

- First cleaning and moulding,—11 labourers per acre, or 247 roots per labourer.

If supply holes are required,—same labour as cane-holes.

- Trashing rattoons, 1st time,—8 per acre, or 340 roots per labourer.

— 2d ditto,—7 per acre, or 388 - ditto.

— 3d ditto,—7 per acre, or 388 - ditto.

Manufacturing :

- Number of labourers to cut and tie canes:

Upon lands yielding for one ton sugar per day, 2 tons sugar per acre, 6 cutters, with 4 tyers.

— 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ - ditto - - 8 ditto - - 4 ditto.

— 1 - ditto - - 10 ditto - - 5 ditto.

— $\frac{1}{2}$ - ditto - - 12 ditto - - 5 ditto.

- Number of loads of canes which one cart can make per day,

From cane-piece to mill,— $\frac{3}{4}$ mile distance, 10 loads, with 1 loader to assist loading.

— $\frac{1}{2}$ - ditto - 15 ditto - 1 ditto - - ditto.

— $\frac{1}{4}$ - ditto - 20 ditto - 2 ditto - - ditto.

— below $\frac{1}{4}$ - ditto - 25 ditto - 2 ditto - - ditto.

- Number of turns or trips which 1 muleman, working 2 mules, can make per day,

From cane-piece to mill,— $\frac{1}{2}$ mile distance, 20 trips.

— $\frac{1}{4}$ - ditto - 25 ditto.

— below $\frac{1}{4}$ - ditto - 30 ditto.

- Number of labourers required about a set of works, to make

1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ton of sugar in 16 hours - 2 tons of sugar in 16 hours.

Cattle mill, at mill-house,—15 labourers - - - 17 labourers.

at boiling-house, 9 ditto - - - 9 ditto.

- Number of gallons of liquor from a cattle-mill,—200 gallons per hour from rattoons; 250 gallons per hour from plants.

If the machinery be upon an improved construction from the old mills, or mules are worked,—250 gallons per hour from rattoons; 300 gallons per hour from plants.

- Number of skips of sugar, from one set of coppers, having a single tache, 12 skips in 16 hours.

— from one set of coppers, having two taches, 18 skips in 16 hours.

Memorandum.—My cattle-mill at Anchovy is one of Collinge's patent horizontal mills, rollers 5 feet long, 2 feet diameter, and with 10 or 12 steers, 3 cane-carriers, and 4 green-trash carriers and 2 feeders, grind whenever required, 400 gallons per hour, plants or rattoons.

H. W. P.

1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ton sugar in 16 hours. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons sugar in 16 hours.

- Water-mill, at mill-house - - 12 labourers - - - 16 labourers.

— at boiling-house - - 9 ditto - - - 12 labourers.

JAMAICA.

- Number of gallons of liquor from a water-mill,—400 gallons per hour from rattoons; 450 gallons per hour from plants.
 Number of skips of sugar, from one set of coppers, having a single tache, 12 skips in 16 hours.
 — from one set of coppers, having two taches, 21 skips in 16 hours.

Pasturage :

- Number of labourers to dig holes for planting Guinea-grass,—10 labourers per acre.
 Number of labourers to plant Guinea-grass (the plants being laid down on the spot),—12 labourers per acre.
 To clean Guinea-grass, not very weedy, cleaned every year,—5 labourers per acre.
 — Guinea-grass, not very foul, cleaned every second year,—7 labourers per acre.
 — Common grass, not very weedy, cleaned every year,—5 labourers per acre.

Masons :

- To pull down an old stone wall, clearing away its foundation, and rebuilding wall, size of base,—high 4 ft. 6 in., top 1 ft. 6 in., bottom 3 ft.,—6 labourers per chain per day.
 To break stones for repairing roads and intervals,—12 bushels per labourer per day.
 — for lime-kiln,—24 bushels per labourer per day.

Coopers :

- To dress up staves from rough and truss off sugar hogsheads, 3 hogsheads in 2 days per labourer.
 Ditto - - - - ditto - - - - - sugar tierces, 2 tierces in 1 day per labourer.
 Ditto - - - - ditto - - - - - rum puncheons, 3 puncheons in 2 days per labourer.
 To hoop off and put in bottom for curing-house, sugar hogsheads, 2 hogsheads in 1 day per labourer.
 Ditto - - - - ditto - - - - - sugar tierces, 3 tierces in 1 day per labourer.
 To dress up staves from rough, hoop off and completely finish, sugar hogsheads, 1 hogshead in 1 day per labourer.
 Ditto - - - - ditto - - - - ditto - - - - - sugar tierces, 3 tierces in 2 days per labourer.
 Ditto - - - - ditto - - - - ditto - - - - - rum puncheons, 2 puncheons in 3 days per labourer.
 To prepare heads from white-pine boards, and head-up sugar for wharf,—if previously levelled off and rammed, 10 hogsheads in 1 day per labourer.
 Ditto - - - - ditto - - - - ditto - - - - - if not levelled off and rammed, 8 hogsheads in 1 day per labourer.

Carpenters and Sawyers :

- To fall trees, cross-cut and split free-grained wood, shingles, 170 in 1 day per labourer.
 Ditto - - - - ditto - - - - - staves, 170 in one day per labourer.
 To rip down, after the log is pitted and lined, soft wood, as cedar, &c., 75 running feet to 2 labourers per day.
 Ditto - - - - ditto - - - - - hard wood, as bullet tree, 50 running feet to 2 labourers per day.

Watchmen :

- To trim up, lop off, and buckle in a logwood fence, 6 chain per day to 2 labourers.
 To cut bamboos and notch one end for cattle chain, 70 bamboos per day per labourer.
 To raise bamboo rail or hog-stye fence, posts 8 feet asunder, rails 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet high, and sunk 18 inches in ground, rails and posts being put down on the spot, 100 feet to 2 labourers per day.

Ginger Cultivation.

- To plough up land with the hoe, 30 labourers per acre.
 To form drills, 18 inches apart, for planting, 10 labourers per acre.
 To plant (the plants being laid down on the spot), 5 labourers per acre.
 To clean and mould, not being too foul, 12 children per acre.
 To dig in, carry home and scrape, 25 lbs. net per day per able labourer.
 To scrape (the digging and carriage done by others), 30 lbs. net per day per able labourer.

Cultivation of Provisions.

Woodland :

- To fall and log woodland, 20 labourers per acre.
 To fall, log, heap up, and burn off woodland, 25 labourers per acre.

Ruinat :

- To clear off heavy ruinate land, 15 labourers per acre.
 — light ruinate land, 10 labourers per acre.

Negro Yams :

- To dig stiff soil, hole and bank 30 inches deep, 30 inches in base, and plant off—65 holes per labourer per day.
 — light soil, ditto ditto ditto, and plant off—75 holes per labourer per day.

Seed Yams :

To dig stiff soil, hole and bank 24 inches deep, 24 inches in base, and plant off—75 holes per labourer per day.

— light soil, ditto ditto ditto, and plant off—85 holes per labourer per day.

Plantains :

To dig holes 12 inches deep and 12 inches in base, and plant off—100 holes per labourer per day.

Cocoas :

To dig holes 10 inches deep and 10 inches in base, and plant off—272 holes per labourer per day.

To clean :

To clean 1 acre of young provisions or corn—10 labourers per acre.

We, the undersigned chairmen, appointed at a meeting of planters for the nine districts, through the parish of St. James, have visited the several properties allotted to each division, and examined the several head-constables, with the overseers, touching and concerning all such matters and things relative to their former and present cultivation, and, after giving our attentive consideration to the various cases of culture through the three grand districts of sea-side, being generally dry,—of midland, being generally seasonable,—and mountains, being generally wet, submit the foregoing scale for nine hours, as being adapted for all parties and purposes.

H. W. Plummer, Chairman of district No. 1.—See my exception to No. of gallons of liquor per hour (p. 55). *H. W. P.*

G. M. Lawson, sen., Chairman of district No. 2.

W. S. Grignon, Chairman of district No. 3.

George Cragg, Chairman of district No. 4.

John Cleghorn, Chairman of district No. 5.

Geo. Gordon, Chairman of district No. 6.

Wm. Heath, Chairman of district No. 7.

Charles O'Connor, Chairman of district No. 8.

Henry Hunter, Chairman of district No. 9.

November 1836.

Proposed SCALE of LABOUR for the Prædial Apprentices, in the Parish of *Trelawney*, Nine Hours.

Cane-holes; 4 feet square, 8 to 10 inches deep :

On stiff-clayed land, 80 to 70.

On light land, 100 to 90.

Where the land is very light, 120.

To cart manure, one spare cart with a yoke of cattle to remain in the pen loading :

On level land, under favourable circumstances, a distance of a quarter of a mile, from 25 to 30 loads.

Under other circumstances, 20 loads.

One first-class apprentice to load 8 or 10 carts daily.

To carry manure from the heap to the cane-holes, 14 per acre, or 200 holes each.

The tops to be taken from the intervals as dropped from the cart, 10 to 14 first-class labourers to plant an acre of land, or 270 to 200 holes each.

To clean out ploughed land for cane-holes :

In light land, 6 to 8 per acre, or 450 to 350 holes each.

In stiff land, 8 to 10 per ditto, or 350 to 280 holes each.

First cleaning of plants, 12 to 14 per acre ; second class, 230 to 200 cane-roots each.

Second cleaning, when part of the bank is given, and supplied where required, 12 to 16 per acre first class, or 230 to 170 cane-roots each.

Third cleaning, when all the bank is given, the same.

To trash canes :

First trashing (plant canes), 6 to 8 per acre first class, or 450 to 350 roots each.

Second trashing, 6 per ditto ditto, 450 ditto.

Third trashing (if the canes are lodged partially, 8 to 10 per ditto ditto, 350 to 270 ditto.

To trash rattoons, 6 to 8 per ditto ditto, 450 to 350 ditto.

To turn trash, 4 per acre, 680 ditto.

To clean rattoons when moulded carefully, 8 to 12 per acre, 350 to 230 ditto.

To clean rattoons when moulded carefully, supplied, and about 10 loads of manure applied where required, per acre, 16 to 20, or 180 to 140 roots each.

To clean and supply rattoons on sea-side estates, 6 to 8 per acre, 450 to 350 ditto.

Other cleanings, sea-side estates, 4 to 6 per acre, or 680 to 450 ditto.

Planting estates, 6 to 8 per acre, 450 to 350 ditto.

To tie up canes and hoe-plough, 22 first class per acre, or 125 holes each.

To carry manure to the holes, 14 second class per ditto, or 200 ditto.

To cover the manure after being hoe-ploughed, 8 per ditto, or 350 ditto.

JAMAICA.

- To clean Guinea-grass on sea-side estates, when well established, 3 to 5 first class per acre.
 Ditto in the interior, 5 to 8 ditto per ditto.
 When partial supplying is required, 10 to 12 ditto per ditto.
 Common pasture, when annually cleaned, 2 to 3 ditto per ditto.
 If not cleaned for 2 years, 6 to 8 ditto per ditto.
 To dig Guinea-grass holes and plant them, the land being previously cleaned, 16 to 22 per acre.
 To clean and supply it, first time, 8 to 10 per ditto.
 One grass-cutter to cut 9 mule-loads, or 1 cart-load of grass per day.
 One muleman with 3 mules to load and convey 7 or 8 turns per day for a distance not exceeding 1 mile.
 The same number of turns for a cart.
 To build stone walls, the stones brought to the spot:
 Base $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet, height $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet, top 16 inches.
 Four first class, and 2 second class per chain.
 The same will apply to pulling down old walls and rebuilding them.
 One first-class labourer to break 9 bushels of stones per day for a lime-kiln.
 To cut canes for 10 hogsheads of sugar per week of $40\frac{1}{2}$ working hours
 Cane-cutters (canes making $1\frac{1}{2}$ hogshead per acre), 12 to 14 first class.
 tyers, 5 to 6 second class.
 Ditto (canes making under that quantity), 16 first class.
 tyers, 6 to 7 second class.
 To convey canes, if the road is level and not exceeding a quarter of a mile, 14 to 16 loads each cart per day of 9 hours.
 If hilly and exceeding that distance, 10 to 12 loads each cart, 2 loaders, first class to assist.
 Two second class, elderly people, to draw and tie long tops, 3 large top-cart loads per day.
 Each top cart to convey 10 loads per day.
 One muleman with 2 mules to convey canes to the intervals to supply one cane-cart.
 A common vertical mill, with 10 horned stock, to grind 220 gallons liquor per hour.
 With mules, 250 ditto per ditto.
 A horizontal mill should grind more.
 Feeders, 2 first class to turn trash - 1 first class.
 To carry canes - - - - 3 first class.
 To carry green trash, 2 to 4, according to the distance of the trash-houses.
 Boatswain - - - - 1 first class.
 Mill-boys - - - - 5
 To catch stock - - - - 1
 To clean the mill-bed, a child.
 Boiling house:
 Boilers (4 coppers) - - - - 4
 Syphon-man - - - - 1
 Water-carriers - - - - 1
 Stokers for coppers - - - - 1
 Dry-trash carriers - - - - 3 or 4
 This establishment is calculated to keep pace with the mill.
 according to ages and the distance of the houses.
 To pot sugar,—1 first class to pot 2 hogsheads in 9 hours.
 Three able people in the distillery will be sufficient to keep up with the boiling-house department.
 Coopers,—first class to raise 3 hogsheads in 2 days.
 To hoop off and bottom 2 ditto per day.
 To raise 3 puncheons in 2 days.
 To finish 1 ditto per day; if assisted in making the heads, to finish 3 puncheons in 2 days.
 One elderly cooper to head up 9 hogsheads of sugar daily.

Ginger Cultivation.

- To plough up land with the hoe, 30 able labourers.
 To form drills 18 inches apart, 10 ditto.
 To plant, the plants being laid down, 5 second class.
 To clean and mould (not being foul), 12 second class.
 Dig and carry home and scrape, 25 lbs. net.
 To scrape (the digging carriage done by others), 30 lbs. net.

The parish of Trelawny comprises great variety of soil, and various modes of cultivation are adopted.

(signed) J. L. Walcott.
 George Marrett.
 W. Carey.
 Bernard Scharschmidt.
 W. Dexter.
 James Murray.
 T. H. Milner.

SCALE of LABOUR to be Performed by an Able-bodied Labourer, in a day of Nine Hours, in the Parish of *Clarendon*.

Nature of the Work to be done.	Number of Labourers to Perform the same.
To dig cane-holes 4½ feet by 4 feet 8 in. deep.	In very stiff land, 60 holes. In stiff land, 70 ditto. In light land, 80 ditto. In light sandy soil, 90 ditto. In very light sandy soil, 100 ditto.
To cross-dig trench-holes - - -	12 labourers to the acre.
To open cane-holes after the plough, when the land has been well ploughed.	15 labourers to the acre.
To plant canes with basket manure heaped up at convenient distances, allowing 50 loads of manure to the acre, and to drop the manure into the cane-holes.	30 labourers to the acre.
To plant canes without manure - - -	12 labourers to the acre.
To weed young plant canes 6 weeks after being planted.	12 labourers to the acre.
To weed and give the bank to young canes when fit to receive the same.	- - 15 labourers to the acre in light soils, and 20 labourers to the acre in heavy soils.
To trash plant-canec - - - -	- - 8 labourers to the acre in the low lands, and 10 labourers to the acre in the mountains.
To trash plant-canec when they are very rank, and are much lodged, and have to be bedded.	- - 12 labourers to the acre in the low lands, and 16 labourers to the acre in the mountains.
To trim, trash, and mould rattoons when foul.	- - 14 labourers to the acre in the mountains, and 8 labourers to the acre in the low lands.
To cut grass to supply the cattle-pens -	- - each labourer to cut 3 top-cart loads, or 8 mule loads of 200 lbs. each.
To remove cattle-pens, post-holes being dug.	5 watchmen in 1 day.
To line cane-holes for 45 on the hoe -	1 man and 2 boys for each acre of land.
To fall heavy copper wood for Guinea-corn, to heap up and burn off the same.	24 labourers to the acre.
To clean up land annually cultivated in Guinea-corn.	6 labourers to the acre.
To winrow the same - - - -	5 labourers to the acre.
To dig corn-holes - - - -	3 labourers to the acre.
To dig corn-holes in stiff land - - -	4 labourers to the acre.
To plant Guinea-corn - - - -	2 labourers to the acre.
To clean Guinea-corn, easy land - - -	4 labourers to the acre.
To clean Guinea-corn, stiff land - - -	6 labourers to the acre.
To single, supply, and mould Guinea-corn -	9 labourers to the acre.
To cut in the guinea-corn crop - - -	4 labourers for each wain load of Guinea corn.
To thresh the Guinea-corn - - - -	3 able labourers to thresh a sugar hogshead.
To plough an acre of easy land - - -	1 ploughman, 3 boys, and 24 good-cattle.
To bill and clean pastures - - - -	3 labourers per acre if light, 6 ditto if foul, and 9 ditto if very foul.
To trim logwood fences - - - -	140 yards for each pair of trimmers. 90 yards if very foul.
To cut canes - - - -	- - 6 labourers to cut as many canes from a field of plants capable of yielding 2 hogsheads per acre, as will make 1 hogshead of sugar, with 3 tyers. 9 labourers and 3 tyers from a field of first-class rattoons. 12 labourers and 4 tyers from a field of inferior rattoons.
To carry canes to the mill - - - -	- - Each wain with 6 steers, 1 man and 1 boy to drive, with 3 labourers to load, must carry 16 loads of canes to the mill, provided the distance be not more than half a mile; if more it must only carry 12 loads; 1 muleman to every 3 mules, must load and carry 18 mule-loads per day.
To pick long tops for the cattle pens - -	- - 2 second-class labourers to collect 3 wain loads per day in the mountains, and 6 wain loads per day in the low lands.

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Nature of the Work to be done.	Number of Labourers to Perform the same.
To grind the canes with a 10-horse power steam-engine, horizontal rollers, or a water-mill, with vertical rollers.	4 cane-carriers. 1 feeder. 1 gutter girl. 1 boatswain. 1 man at the engine-boiler to grind 2,400 gallons of liquor from rattoons, and 3,200 gallons from plants.
To carry green trash - - - - -	3 labourers for steam-engine or water-mill. 2 labourers for cattle-mill.
To boil the sugar with 1 set of coppers -	3 boilers. 1 stokehole-man. 1 pan-man. 2 dry-trash carriers should boil 8 skips per day, 60 gallons each skip. 8 builders to each chain of 66 feet.
To building stone walls, stones being on the ground.	10 feet for each able labourer.
To throw up the banks of a ditch and penguin fence; the ditch being 5 feet broad at the top, 2 feet at the bottom, and 4 feet deep.	
To cut 1 wain load of stockadoes - - -	1 able labourer.
To cut 1 wain load of rails - - - - -	1 able labourer.
To cut and chip logwood per ton - - -	-- 5 labourers per day if the wood be good, 7 if the wood be twisted.
To mind stock - - - - -	-- 1 man and 1 boy for every 100 head of stock.
To make a lime-kiln to produce 40 sugar hogsheads of lime.	500 able labourers.
To make 1,000 bricks - - - - -	18 able labourers.
To make baskets, the material being found -	2 baskets for manure. 1 basket for trash for each watchman per day.
To dig yam and cocoa-holes - - - - -	-- Each able labourer to dig 70 negro yam-hills, 80 white yam-hills, or 200 cocoa-holes in 1 day.
To make pegs - - - - -	600 pegs for each labourer.
To line land for coffee, 6 feet square - -	2 men and 3 boys to the acre.
To plant an acre of coffee, 6 feet square, plants being found them.	6 able labourers to the acre.
To weed an acre of coffee - - - - -	10 able labourers.
To pot the sugar - - - - -	-- 1 labour to pot 2 hogsheads of sugar per day.
In the still-house - - - - -	-- 3 labourers to make 6 puncheons of rum per week.
To cart out manure - - - - -	-- 1 wainman, 1 boy, and 3 loaders, with a spare wain, must carry out 13 wain loads per day, provided the distance be not more than half a mile.
To cut copper wood - - - - -	Each labourer to cut 2 wain loads.
To fall heavy woodland, to lop, to heap up, and to burn off the same.	6 able labourers for each acre.
To split staves, to say to fall, cross-cut, or junk, and then to split the same.	100 staves for each cooper.
To hew staves - - - - -	150 staves for each cooper.
To split shingles - - - - -	200 shingles for each cooper.
To hew shingles - - - - -	200 shingles for each cooper.
To fall, junk, and split heading - - -	100 pieces for each cooper.
To saw boards - - - - -	50 feet per day for each pair of sawyers.
To cut mortice posts, with 4 eyes in each post.	60 posts for each labourer.
To cut mortice posts, with 3 eyes in each -	8 posts for each labourer.
To make a sugar hogshead from red-oak staves.	1 cooper.
To make 1 rum puncheon from puncheon packs.	1 cooper.
To prune 5-year old coffee - - - - -	150 trees for each labourer.
To prune 7-year old coffee - - - - -	100 trees for each labourer.
To prune old neglected coffee - - - - -	60 trees for each labourer.
To pick coffee from the trees in full bearing, and to carry the same to the works, provided the distance does not exceed 1 mile.	1 barrel for each able labourer.
To picking coffee from the trees in a field where the coffee bears moderately.	3 able labourers to 2 barrels.
To hand-pick coffee in the store - - -	100lbs. for each able labourer.

Alexandre Bravo, Custos of Clarendon.

A SKETCH or SCALE of LABOUR applicable to the Sugar Estates, Coffee Plantations, Pens, and Pimento Walks, in the Parish of *St. Ann*, as laid down by a Committee appointed for that purpose by his Honor the Custos; the Committee having met this 20th day of January 1837, at *St. Ann's Bay*, composed of the Chairmen of the various Committees, who, having examined several Witnesses, and taken the matter into their serious consideration, are of opinion the following Scale of Labour is adapted for the abovementioned Parish of *St. Ann*, on the Nine Hours' System.

1. To underwood an acre of woodland for felling, and felling the same for canes, 17 hands to the acre.
2. To lop and log an acre after felling, 32 hands.
3. To relog and heap an acre of land after a running fire for cane-holes, 12 hands.
4. To hole an acre of new land, cutting roots where required, lined 4 feet square, 45 hands or 60 holes each.
5. To plant an acre of new land, with 3 tops in each hole, of 4 feet, tops dropped previously by mules in heaps, 14 to the acre or 200 holes in each.
6. To hoe off and stock up an acre of old cane-land for cane-holes, 10 hands.
7. Number of cane-holes each able labourer is capable of digging per day of the following description of land, the holes being 4 feet square and 9 inches deep: In light hill-side land, 100 holes; in light sandy loam, 120 ditto; in flat land, not of a stiff clay, 90 ditto; in flat black mould of a stiff clayey nature, 80 holes for men and 70 for women.
8. To line and peg an acre of land in 4 feet square holes, 4 hands.
9. To plant an acre of old land when dunged with flying pens, or otherwise, 4 feet holes, 3 tops in each hole, and tops previously laid on the piece by carts or mules, digging up bottom of hole, and covering tops with partition; 11 hands or 250 holes each.
10. To thoroughly hoe-plough an acre of ratoon canes, 15 hands or 181 roots each.
11. To clean an acre of plants the first time, not over foul, 10 hands or 272 roots each.
12. To clean an acre of plants the second time, partially banking, 10 hands or 272 roots each.
13. To clean an acre of plants the third time, giving all the bank, 14 hands or 195 roots.
14. To give an acre of good plants the first thrashing, 8 hands or 390 roots each.
15. Ditto ditto second trashing, 7 hands or 390 roots each.
16. Ditto ditto third and bedding up, 10 hands or 227 roots each.
17. To trash an acre of first rattoons first time, 7 hands or 390 roots each.
18. To give second trashing, 7 hands or 340 roots each.
19. To give third trashing, 7 hands or 340 roots each.
20. To trash an acre of second or third rattoons, 6 hands or 450 roots each.
21. To turn trash per acre, when not very foul, and supply, 7 hands or 450 roots each.
22. Number of hands required to drop a large basket of dung in each hole of an acre, containing 2,722 holes, dung previously laid on the piece in heaps to serve an acre; 13 hands or 220 baskets of 50 lbs. each.
23. Number of hands required at the works to make 1 hogshead of sugar every 9 hours, with a cattle-mill, including potting, 28 hands; for a water-mill, 20 hands; for a steam-engine, 22 hands.
24. Number of carts required to supply the mill at 1 mile distance, say 12 loads on the average to the hogshead, at 2,000 gallons, and with one leader in the field, 3 carts 6 cattle each, and two drivers to each cart.
25. Number of mules required to supply the carts as above, if not allowed to run in the piece, 6 mules and 3 men.
26. Number of hands required to cut canes on an average of plants and rattoons for a hogshead every 9 hours, when not much lodged or rat eaten, 11 hands.
27. Number of hands required to tie canes on an average of plants and rattoons per hogshead every 9 hours, 5 able hands, or 7 of the second gang on an average.
28. Number of hands required to draw long tops, and tie the same, 1 to a cart, or 8 good mule loads.
29. Number of hands required in distill-house to make an average of 4 puncheons of rum weekly, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ days to the week, 3, if wood supplied in junks.
30. Number of hands required in the woods to fell and split hogshead staves, 10 hands to the M of 1,200.
31. Number of hogshead staves to be rough chopped in the woods per day, an expert chopper 160, indifferent ditto 120.
32. Number of hogsheads to be raised per day per man, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ country staves, 2 American ditto.
33. Number of hogsheads to be hooped and bottomed complete for sugar from the all-ready raised casks per day per man, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ country staves, 2 of American.
34. Rum puncheons to be raised per week at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ days per man, 3 out of the rough staves, packs 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per day, or 5 weekly.
35. Number of hands required to clear off an acre of ruinate land, and heap it for Guinea-grass, 12 if not very heavy, 15 if heavy.
36. Number of hands required to clear off an acre of ruinate land for a running fire, 10 if not very heavy, 12 if heavy.
37. Number of hands required to hole an acre of land for grass at 18 inches distance, and to plant the same, grass previously dropped, 10 if not rocky, 14 if very rocky.

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38. Number of feet 1 pair of sawyers can saw in a day, the timber being pitted, 45 feet of hard wood and 60 feet of cedar.
39. Number of apprentices required to build 1 chain of stone wall per day, the wall being 4 feet 6 inches on the base, 38 inches on the top, and 5 feet high, the stones being carted to the place, 6.
40. Number required to rebuild a chain of stone wall per day of the above dimensions, 6.
41. What number of mortice-posts of 3 holes in each should a labourer get daily, 10.
42. What number of hands is required to make a safe half-acre flying pen, with mortice-posts and rails, in a day, posts and rails being ready, and 13 posts on each side, and 4 rails to each; 5 at an average.
43. What number of mule loads of grass should be cut daily per cutter, 8 mule loads.
44. What number of trips of grass should a man make with 2 mules daily at half-mile distance, 8.
45. What number of carts should be loaded daily by each able loader of crop-dung, carts measuring 3 feet 8 inches by 7 feet 4 inches, and 1 foot 8 inches deep, 4.
46. Number of cart loads of canes or manure to be carried daily by one cart, the distance being half a mile, 12 loads per day.
47. What number of hands should put 50 loads of dung per day into a square heap of 15 feet, dung dropped as usual by the carts, 12 hands.
48. What quantity of stones should an able hand break per day for a road, stones laid to hand, the same will appertain to a lime-kiln, $3\frac{1}{2}$ common herring barrels without bottom.
49. What number of yam-holes, 14 inches deep and 2 feet broad, and heaped, is required of an able labourer daily, 80.
50. What quantity of land just planted in canes should a labourer plant daily with corn, at 4 feet, with a bill for the dibble, $1\frac{1}{2}$ acre.
51. What number of corn-holes should a labourer dig daily in old cane land, 2,000.
52. To underwood and fell woodland for coffee, 17 hands to the acre.
53. Lopping and logging the same, 16 hands to the acre.
54. Burning off land and pegging the same for coffee, 7 hands to the acre.
55. Collecting plants and planting same, 12 hands to the acre.
56. Weeding coffee per acre, 10 hands when heavy, 8 when light.
57. Picking coffee in the field, to be laid on barbagues at 1 mile distance, maximum to be laid at 1 barrel each, minimum ditto at $\frac{1}{2}$ barrel each.
58. Pruning coffee, 16 hands to the acre.
59. Hand or table-picking coffee, what quantity should a labourer pick daily; of unpulped 90 lbs., of pulped 125 lbs.
60. Splitting shingles, 8 hands and a cook to the merchantable, 1,000.
61. At what rate should apprentices travel with a load of 40 shingles, or 12 staves, per hour; 3 miles coming and going.
62. Paying due attention to the stock, at what rate should they travel to and from the wharf, including detention to unload and load there, 2 miles per hour.
63. Pimento:—1 breaker to 4 pickers, first gang, should give daily 2 barrels; 1 ditto to 6 ditto, second gang, ditto.
64. Cutting wood for each apprentice, 1 to each cord daily.

(signed) Chas. Smith.
 Benj. Scott Moncrieffe.
 H. Smallwood.
 Wm. Fairweather.
 Raymond Shelly.

IN compliance with the request of his Honor the Custos, the proprietors and managers of estates in the district of *Manchioneal*, in the parish of *St. Thomas-in-the-East*, met at *Manchioneal Harbour*, on Tuesday the 8th day of November 1836, to take into their consideration the recommendation of his Excellency the Governor as to the fixing of a general scale of labour, when a committee of inquiry was appointed. The committee visited several estates, and examined the constables belonging to them, and made their report at another meeting, held on the 12th day of November, when the scale of labour set down, hereunto annexed, was fixed on and agreed to as adapted to the district of *Manchioneal*.

The scale is confined to the cultivation of sugar estates, as there are no coffee plantations in the district, and only one or two settlements where arrow-root is made.

(signed) John Cargill, Senior Magistrate.

At a meeting of magistrates, proprietors, attornies, and managers of the district of *Manchioneal*, called by John Cargill, esq., senior magistrate, by desire of his Honor the Custos, on Tuesday the 8th day of November 1836, for the purpose of framing a scale of labour to be performed by apprenticed labourers in the said district, we, the undersigned, being named a committee for the said purpose, have come to the following, which we beg to submit:

That, in the inland part of this district, the soil is chiefly black mould on clay or chalk-stone, and the Bourbon cane principally cultivated. In the lower or sea-side the soil in some parts

parts consists of loamy, in others clay or grit, and the Violet and Mont Blanc cultivated; the scale is therefore framed accordingly.

1. In digging cane-holes, land lined 4 feet square, 3 feet opened within the bank, not more than 8 inches deep, the row all along dug out, leaving no bar,—in light and gritty sand 100 holes, women 90; in stiff land men to dig 80, women 70.
2. In planting with manure, the dung heaps not more than 30 yards apart,—24 to the acre, at the rate of not more than 60 wain loads of manure to the acre, the land being in fair order.
3. In planting without manure,—12 to the acre, plants on the spot.
4. In cleaning and banking plants,—20 to the acre.
5. In relieving sprouts, or, as commonly called, turning trash,—5 to the acre.
6. In cleaning and moulding rattoons,—16 to the acre; 20 to the acre if the land is stiff.
7. In booting or first trashing plants,—15 to the acre.
8. In all other trashings,—10 to the acre if not heavy and lodged.
9. In cutting canes to make 1 hogshead of sugar of 18 cwt.,—15 if very heavy and lodged. If good standing Bourbon plants, and good yielding, 6 cutters and tyers, at the rate of 2 to 5 cutters; if indifferent and yielding well, 8 cutters; if Violet or Mont Blanc plants of very good quality and yielding, 9 cutters; if of moderate quality and yielding, 12 cutters. Tyers the same as for Bourbon canes.
10. In cutting rattoons for 1 hogshead,—if Bourbon, 8 cutters; if Violet or Mont Blanc, 12 cutters: tyers as before.
11. In hoeing off or cleaning for holing,—20 to the acre.
12. In billing pastures,—if foul, 6 to the acre; if moderate, 4 to the acre.
13. In stocking up cane-stools, if canes newly cut,—8 to the acre.
14. In digging yam-hills and planting,—80 per day, as usually dug in provision grounds.
15. In digging cocoa-holes and planting,—200 per day.
16. In digging plantain-holes and planting,—150 per day.
17. In planting Indian corn through cane-holes or provision grounds,—2 to the acre.
18. In digging Guinea-corn holes and planting,—4 to 6 to the acre, according to the land.
19. In digging Guinea-grass holes and planting, the grass ready on the spot,—12 to the acre.
20. Number of wain loads of manure that can be carried out by two wains, one loading and the other carrying, with two drivers and three fillers, at a distance not more than half a mile,—24 loads per day.
21. Number of wains or mules to carry canes to make 1 hogshead sugar on moderate level roads per day, not at a greater distance than three quarters of a mile,—12 mules or 2 wains of Bourbon canes, 15 mules or wains, at the rate of 2½ of Violet or Mont Blanc.
22. One able hand to cut 9 mule loads copper wood per day.

Second Gang.

23. If first cleaning young plants and supplying,—if not foul, and requiring few supplies, 20 to the acre.
24. In cleaning and half banking plants,—20 to the acre on stiff soil, 15 on light.
25. In full banking and cleaning,—25 on stiff soil, 20 on light.
26. In cleaning and moulding rattoons,—20 on light soil, 25 on stiff.
27. In relieving sprouts, or, as commonly called, turning trash,—7 to the acre.
28. In planting Indian corn,—the same as the great gang.
29. In cleaning pastures,—5 to the acre if not heavy.
30. In hoeing off for holing,—25 to the acre if moderate.

Third Gang.

31. In light work, such as commonly employed at weeding young plants, planting corn, &c. &c.,—the same as the second gang.
32. Grass-cutters weeding as they cut,—if good grass, 7 mule loads; if indifferent, 5 mule loads per day.
33. Grass-cutters drawing long tops,—12 mule loads per day.
34. An efficient cooper to make at the rate of 1 sugar hogshead per day, or 3 rum puncheons per week.
35. Number of apprentices required about the works to make a day's work of 2 hogshead sugar (water-mill),—1 boatswain, 2 feeders, 3 cane carriers, 3 green-trash carriers, 1 filling baskets, 1 cleaning mill-bed, 3 dry-trash carriers, 1 stokerman, 5 boilermen, 1 sugar potter; total, 21.
36. Ditto ditto to make 6 hogsheads per week,—17 apprentices; 4 in addition where there is a cattle-mill.
37. In the distilling, where 2 hogsheads sugar are made per day, 3 men are required; where 6 are made per week, 2 men sufficient.

(signed) *James M'William.*
James Helps.
George Ward.
Francis Martin.

This scale of work has been approved of by the undermentioned constables before the committee, and in the presence of several other constables.

Richard Hughes, Apprentice to Reach.
James Brown, ditto, Betty's Hope.
Abraham Walker, ditto, Spring Valley.
Michael Cosens, ditto, Murtown.

JAMAICA.

REPORT for the District of *Plantain-Garden River*, and along-shore to the East of *Port Morant*, as to the Quantity of Labour capable of being performed by Apprentices under a System of Task-work.

1. To dig cane-holes 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet by 4, 8 inches deep,—75 each able man or woman, but when the ground is very hard, 65.
2. To clean out the holes, drop 45 loads dung, and plant the canes, dung-heaps 35 yards apart,—22 to the acre.
3. To plant canes without manure,—10 the acre.
4. Giving the bank to young plants, the first and second time by young people,—9 to the acre.
5. Giving bank to plant-canecan the third time, and taking off any loose trash,—9 to the acre.
6. Trashing plant-canecan at 7 months old,—9 to the acre.
7. In stocking up cane-roots, and preparing the land to dig into cane-holes,—8 to an acre.
8. Turning trash, and cleaning rattoons a month old,—8 to the acre.
9. Turning trash, and moulding rattoons,—11 to the acre.
10. How many ought to turn trash, weed, and mould, first rattoons 6 weeks old, and put in supplies where required,—11 to the acre.
11. In cutting and tying canes sufficient for 1 hogshead sugar, 18 cwt.,—10, working 9 hours each per day.
12. Number required in the boiling-house to make 3 hogsheads sugar per day, 15 hours,—5 boiler-men, 2 stockers, 2 dry-trash carriers, 1 pan-man, 1 potter, 1 gutter-cleaner, 1 to clean boiling-house, &c.; total, 13.
13. Number required in the mill-house and cane-yard to make 3 hogsheads sugar per day, 12 hours,—2 mill-feeders, 4 cane carriers, 4 green-trash carriers, 1 cleaning mill-bed, and 1 constable to superintend; total, 12.
14. Number of wains to carry canes, say half a mile, to make 3 hogsheads sugar in a day of 9 hours,—3 wains, 6 drivers, and 1 hand to assist in loading the wains.
15. Number of wain loads of manure that can be carried out by two wains, one loading and the other carrying, with two drivers and two fillers, at a distance not exceeding half a mile,—20 loads per day.
16. In cleaning pastures,—7 per day per acre, if cleaned annually.
17. Number per acre for cleaning Guinea-grass pieces,—6 per day.
18. To hoe off pasture-land and dig holes for planting Guinea-grass,—25 per acre.
19. To plant the Guinea-grass roots on the spot,—7 per acre.
20. Digging Guinea corn-holes, cleaning off the land, and planting holes 2 feet apart, land not too foul,—27 to the acre.
21. In planting Indian-corn through cane-holes,—2 to the acre.
22. Grass-cutters, weeding as they cut,—each grass-cutter to cut 8 mule loads Guinea-grass per day.
23. A boy with 3 mules, how many loads of Guinea-grass ought he to give per day,—30 loads.
24. How many square feet of trenching should a man deepen in a day,—500.
25. Digging yam-holes 4 feet from top of each hill, and 3 feet deep from top,—1 able man should dig 60.
26. Cutting wood in cords of 8 feet long, 4 feet broad, and 4 feet high,—1 man per cord.
27. To cut 3 holes each in mortice-posts,—an able man should cut 10 per day, posts at hand.

(signed) *John Renwick,*
Joseph Miller,
M. Thompson,
James Blount,
John Crockett, } Committee.

REPORT for the District of *St. Thomas-in-the-East*, West of *Port Morant*, as to the Quantity of Labour capable of being performed by Apprentices under a System of Task-work.

Number of cane-holes to be dug in a day of 9 hours, the holes to be 4 feet square, on stiff clay soil, on level ground,—70 holes.

Ditto on similar soil on a hill-side,—76 holes.

Ditto on brick mould or alluvial soil,—100 holes.

Number of hands to drop dung on an acre of level land when the dung-heaps are on the land or in the intervals,—12 second class.

Ditto on a hill-side,—15 ditto.

Number to dig cane-stumps previous to holing 1 acre,—3 first class.

Number required to plant 1 acre, the tops put down at convenient distances,—15 first class, or 20 second class.

Number of wain loads of tops to plant 1 acre,—12 loads.

Number

Number of hands required for first weeding ditto,—12 third class, if no grass; but if foul, 15 third class.

Ditto second weeding, and giving part of bank,—12 second class.

Ditto third weeding, and giving remainder of bank,—12 first class.

Ditto to turn trash and hoe an acre of ratoons 2 months old, if foul,—9 first class.

Ditto to trash an acre of canes gone through twice or thrice, and not lodged,—5 first class.

Ditto to trash an acre where there is no grass,—6 first class.

Ditto to cut canes yielding 2 hogsheads per acre, and making 2 hogsheads per day, with 1 set of boilers,—9 cutters and 3 tyers, able workers.

Ditto to cut canes making one hogshead per acre,—12 cutters and 4 tyers.

Ditto to carry canes to make 2 hogsheads per day on good level roads, the distance between the field and the mill not more than a quarter mile,—3 wains with 2 drivers each, and 2 second-class workers to assist in loading.

Ditto about the works where the machinery and boilers are capable of making 2 hogsheads per day,—1 boatswain, 2 mill-feeders, 3 cane-carriers, 1 mill-bed cleaner, 4 green-trash carriers, 3 dry-trash carriers, 5 boiler-men, 1 pan-man, 2 stockhole-men, 1 sugar-potter: total, 23.

Ditto to fill and carry out 45 loads of dung per day, distance not more than a quarter mile, 1 wain filling and 3 carrying,—3 first class.

Ditto to heap up dung, 60 loads to each heap,—6 second class.

Ditto to drop dung, 60 loads to the acre,—15 second class.

Hands required to plough half an acre from clay or light land, commencing at dawn, and working till 11 A. M., re-commencing at 3 P. M. and working till sunset,—2 able men to hold the plough, and 2 second-class drivers, with 8 cattle.

Ditto to plough half an acre of stiff land per day, turning up all the land as they go, and working the same time as above,—2 able men to hold the plough, and 3 second-class drivers, with 12 cattle.

Ditto to hoe off an acre of cane-land per day before penning or digging, grass not long,—3 first class, or 12 second class.

Ditto to move a mortice-post and rail cattle-pen, containing half an acre, in a day,—10 watchmen.

Ditto to cut grass sufficient to supply 100 cattle in the pen in ordinary quantity of grass,—7 grass-cutters, or 9 mule-loads each.

One able hand should make 10 mortice-posts, 3 holes each per day.

One able hand should cut a cord of wood for the still-house per day.

Billing pastures and taking out sour grass, per acre,—6 able hands.

Billing Guinea-grass pastures neglected 3 years, per acre,—12 able hands.

To dig holes and plant grass; carrying same, per acre, 12 able hands.

To hoe off land to plant Guinea-corn, 8 hands; digging corn-holes, 6 hands; planting, 3 hands,—17 per acre.

To plant an acre of Indian corn in cane-holes, planting the corn 3 feet apart,—5 second class.

Coffee Planting.

Number of hands required to fall, lop, and burn off one acre of high woodland ready to plant coffee,—137 hands.

Number of hands to line and plant the coffee, and make roads through the piece on hilly land,—36 hands.

Number of hands required for the first weeding,—15 children.

Ditto for second weeding,—15 children.

Ditto to clean an acre of ruinate with light wood, to plant coffee, and line the grounds,—60 hands.

Ditto to hoe an acre of coffee the third cleaning, if foul,—12 hands.

Quantity one hand should pick if coffee fully ripe,—3 bushels.

To prune an acre of coffee where ordinary care has been taken,—20 hands.

To prune an acre that has been long neglected,—40 hands.

Number of hands required to clean an acre of old coffee that is foul, or very grassy,—10 hands.

(signed) *Thomas Thomson,*
Ken. M'Pherson,
Charles Scott,
John Renwick, } Committee.

AT a GENERAL MEETING of the PLANTERS held at Mandeville, on the 12th day of November 1836, J. R. Tomlinson, Esq. in the Chair, the following Scale of Day Labour for each able-bodied Apprentice, working Eight Hours per Day, was fixed on.

N.B.—The figures marked thus (*) are calculated in the same proportion, agreeable to the nine-hour system.

Woodland, per Acre.				Felling Ruinate Land, per Acre.	Cleaning up and burning Heaps, per Acre.	Making Pegs, per Labourer.	Lining Ground, per Acre.	Planting Coffee-suckers, per Labourer.	Weeding Coffee, per Acre.				Pruning Coffee, per Labourer: No. of Trees each.				Hand-stripping Coffee, per Labourer.
Underwooding.	Lopping.	Logging.	Felling.						Once every Five Weeks.	Once every Seven Weeks.	Once every Nine Weeks.	Once every Three Months.	Four Years old.	Five Years old.	Old.	In a neglected state.	
6	8	6	12	8	10	600	5	200	4	6	7	10	250	150	100	80	250 trees
									Planted at 6 feet, is equal to Trees :								
									302	201	173	134					
*5	*7	*5	*10	*7	*9	*675	*4	*225	*3 ½	*5	*6	*8 ½	*280	*168	*112	*90	*280

Picking Coffee, and Carrying same, not exceeding One Mile per Labourer.		Hand-picking Coffee in Store, per Labourer.	Felling, Cross-cutting, and Splitting, per Pair of Labourers.				Hewing, per Cooper.		Hewing Shingles, per Cooper.		Making Casks for Cooper.	Sawing, including Pitting, &c. per Pair of Sawyers.		Sawing Boards, exclusive of Pitting, per Pair of Sawyers.	Building Stone Walls, and carrying Stones, per Chain, of 4 ½ ft. high, 3 ft. 4 in. by 14 in.	Cleaning Grass-pieces, having been cleaned once a Year, per Acre.	Digging Grass-holes and Planting, being supplied with Grass, per Acre.		
In full bearing.	In moderate bearing.		Heading.	Staves	Shingles, a 4 inc.		Heading.	Staves.	Cedar.	Common.		50 ft.	70 ft.						
					Cedar.	Common.													
1 barrel	½ to 2 bush.	- 8 qts. of hand-picking, and 100 lbs. to 200 lbs. of clean coffee.	250 a 7 inc. 300 a 6 -	300	500	400	150	125	250	200	1	50 ft.	70 ft.	12 to 20	3 to 5	12			
*5 barrels per week.	—	*9 qts. hand-picking.	*280 & *335.	*335	*560	*450	*168	*140	*280	*225	*5 per week.	*56 ft.	*78 ft.	*10 to 16	—	*10			

C. P. Berry, Custos.

To the Honourable John Mais.

St. Andrew's, 14 December 1836.

THE different committees, appointed by your Honor, to form a scale of labour for this parish, have concluded that the following is as near as we possibly can determine, with justice to all parties, and allowing the day's labour to be of nine hours.

	Number of Hands per Acre.	Number of Cane Holes Daily.
1. Digging cane-holes on fallow land with the hoe, size of holes to be 4 feet by 4 feet, and 9 inches deep and 12 inches bottom of hole, an able labourer can dig per day.	35	80
2. And when the land has been broken up previously with the plough, a labourer can dig per day (if weather favourable).	20	140
3. And when the land is formed into cane-holes, and only requires cleaning out at bottom, an able labourer can clean out per day in the general run of soil.	8	360
4. And when the land is formed into furrows for cane-holes, and requisite to be dug cross-ways to the ploughing, an able labourer can dig.	10	300
5. Fallow ploughing: 2 men and 1 boy, with 8 steers in harness, and Wilkins' patent improved plough can plough per day to lay fallow (10-inch deep furrow) ¾ an acre.		
6. Cane-hole ploughing: 2 men and 1 boy, with 8 steers in harness, and Wilkins' plough can plough into cane-holes an acre per day. Plough to work 4 hours in morning and 4 in evening.		

	Number of Hands per Acre.	Number of Cane Holes Daily.
7. Planting canes on the generality of soil in the parish, tops put around the cane piece per acre of able labourers.	12	
8. Planting canes and dropping the manure into the holes (dung being in a heap in each acre) of able labourers per day, (70 load per acre).	32	
9. First cleaning of young plants in wet seasons, and not more than six weeks aged, if able labourers, per day per acre.	12	
10. If in dry seasons and few weeds therein - - - - -	8	
11. Cleaning the young plant the second time, and banking them, of able labourers, per acre.	15	
12. If the dung or manure is to be given in the bank, it will take per acre.	30	
13. Third cleaning and taking off the bottom trash off the young plants, able labourers per acre.	12	
14. First trashing of the plant canes when aged, able labourers per acre.	10	
15. Second trashing of same - - - - -	8	
16. Third trashing and bedding of cane from 8 to 12 - - - - -	12	
17. Turning of trash immediately after canes are cut, say 10 days, able labourers per acre.	8	
18. Turning trash, if delayed, as the stools must be moulded, able labourers per acre.	12	
19. Trashing and cleaning the ratoon cane when not foul of grass, (if foul, 12).	10	
20. Trashing and cleaning the ratoon cane the second time per acre -	8	
21. Cutting of cane for crop, 12 cutters and 6 tyers (in all 18), are capable of cutting cane sufficient for 2 hogsheads per diem, or 10 hogsheads per week, (of 45 hours).		
Or it would be more fair and just to all parties to task each and every cutter to cut three full and proper wain loads (6 steers therein) per diem, making in all 15 loads per week, to be cut by each cutter (tyers are not counted), therefore, if the cane yielded spontaneously or otherwise, it would make no difference to the labourer, but if they are tasked to cut canes for any number of hogsheads per week, a difference might take place, for some canes may have juice in abundance, and others have but little, therefore twice the number of canes would be requisite for the quantity of sugar.—Remark: In heavy plant canes a labourer will cut more than three loads per day, and, in ratoon canes, not so much, therefore the average can be put at 3 loads per day. N.B.—Eighteen full and proper loads of canes should make a hogshead of sugar of 18 cwt.		
22. Waining or carting of canes to mill-house: 3 wains, with 6 steers to each wain, with man and boy to said wain, and with 1 loader allowed to each wain, are capable of bringing home to mill all such canes cut by the foregoing number of cutters from a distance of 1 mile from mill; 2 wains are sufficient when within the half mile.		
23. Manufacture of the produce: The want of improvement in our mills and boilers (or coppers), as well as the construction of flues for aiding the well working of the latter implement, no correct or exact task can be given as to the quantity of labour to be performed; but, for the satisfaction of those who wish the information, we conclude that it is a very poor cattle-mill which does not grind for 4 hogsheads sugar per week of 45 hours; and a very poor water-mill which is not capable to grind canes sufficient for 6 hogsheads sugar per 45 hours; further, as to the boiling, it is a very poor sett, and must be badly constructed coppers or boilers which cannot boil into sugar at the rate of 2 hogsheads per diem of 9 hours, especially when there may be 4 boilers and clarifiers. However, as regards the manufacture of the produce, your committee have to state it would be giving all parties justice, if upon all properties, and each property in the district, a statement of work so done in mill and boiling-house during the 45 hours in any one week on such quantity of labour having been proved to have been performed. Let such be the guide of manager and magistrate. If such takes place there will be no differences between manager or apprentices.		

	Number of Hands per Acre.	Number of Cane Holes Daily.
24. Sugar potting or curing: 1 labourer to pot at the rate of 2 hogsheads, or 3 tierces, or 15 barrels per diem. No delay to take place.		
25. Still-house labour: 2 able labourers are capable of manufacturing into spirit (rum) the sweets given by 8 hogsheads of sugar in each and every week, taking one week with the other during the crop.		
26. Wood-cutting: if wood thick, 3-4th of a cord; if scarce, one-half a cord per day.		
27. Making of casks: 2 able coopers (labourers) will make 8 hogsheads per week, or 5 puncheons (between both), provided staves are good, and deal heading given for the hogsheads' heads.		
28. Carting or waggoning to Kingston: a waggon with 12 steers, men and boys in proportion as drivers, and carrying full loads (or at the rate of 4 cwt. for each and every steer), can travel at the rate of 3 miles an hour on the roads we usually have in the parish.		
29. Manuring: 1 wain with 6 steers, man and boy, can take out 15 full loads of dung per diem, distance not more than half a mile; if to a further distance, in proportion, and loaders or dung-fillers must be allowed to cause no delay to the wainman.		
30. Heaping manure so taken to the field: 10 labourers can heap up into a square of 15 × 15 feet, and 4½ in height, one such heap per diem; and such heap will contain 60 full and proper wain loads, and the dung must be taken by the wainman as close as possible.		
31. Feeding for stock, or cattle on estates or properties: It is generally the case to employ weakly or aged women for such purpose, and the usual quantity cut is 8 mule (back) loads per diem. The weight of a mule load is about 100 lbs. Guinea-grass; in some grass they will cut more; 15 such cutters should cut and supply feeding for 200 head of stock.		
32. Carrying such grass to pens: 4 men with 3 mules each will carry all such grass so cut by the 15 cutters, to any pen within three quarters of a mile from such place the grass may be cut on; if to a farther distance, in proportion.		
33. Cane top feeding: Such hands as are generally grass-cutters will tie up of cane tops at the rate of three cart loads, or two wain loads, per diem, for each and every hand.		
34. Carrying thereof: As there is a material difference in the carriage, weight, and bulk, it is proper to show it as follows: that one-half the number of mules is only required, if employed (by back loads), if mule carts are employed, one cart can carry as fast as five can tie.		
35. Great corn or maize; planting thereof in cane-holes: Two hands will plant an acre per day.	2	
36. Breaking-in thereof: Four labourers will break in an acre per diem of heavy yielding (say 10 bushels to the acre fit for market).	4	
37. Guinea-corn: Clearing up land for such, digging cane-holes, and planting (an acre), able labourers.	25	
38. Guinea-corn: singling and moulding, per acre - - - -	12	
39. Fences: Making a penguin fence, digging the ditch four feet wide, three feet deep, and penguins on the spot, per chain, of able hands.	10	
40. If only to repair a penguin fence, and trim the same - - - -	6	
41. Making mortice-posts for cattle-pens or fences: One able labourer will make eight per diem, of three eyes in each post, out of the raw material or timber. If posts of four eyes, six per diem; the bringing out of the woods a separate job.		
42. Making of cattle-pens: Flying pens, eight labourers will put up the four sides and complete the same in the day, provided posts and rails are laid down on the spot, and when the pens require removing, 6 hands are sufficient, there being only 3 sides (size of pens, one acre).		
43. Making of stone walls, either for purpose around cane pieces, or otherwise: Twelve labourers (used to walling) will erect 48 feet per day, in length, 2 feet 6 inches at bottom, and 2 feet at top, and 4 feet 6 inches in height. All the stones for the purpose to be laid down on the spot, at hand of labourers.		

	Number of Hands per Acre.	Number of Cane Holes Daily.
44. Stone breaking: Stone for lime-kiln; 1 labourer to break 2½ barrels per day, or 15 cwt.		
45. Thatching of Negro houses: A labourer will thatch 90 square feet per diem, each lath to be 7 inches apart, thatch to be of the fan-fan or broom thatch, and the same to be at the building so erecting, and assistance given in handing up, or 8 labourers will thatch off a Negro house in one day, size 15 by 20 feet, and pitch in proportion to size.		
46. Cultivation of Guinea-grass: To stock up (or hoe off all ruinate grass stubble) an acre per day, fit to dig grass-holes (able labourers).	15	
Five hands will dig the grass-holes in such land so got ready, an acre per day.	5	
Ten hands will procure the grass roots, if in the adjoining piece, and plant the same, an acre per diem.	10	
47. Cleaning and supplying thereof: Ten labourers to the acre, provided the seasons have been favourable (if not 12 hands).	12	
48. Cleaning thereof after being established, and allowing the piece to be cleaned once per annum: Labourers per acre per diem.	6	
49. Billing and heaping of bush in a pasture which has been neglected: 8 to 10 labourers per acre per diem.	10	
50. Labourers for the works, or the manufacture of produce. The number depends on the construction and situation of the buildings. However, your committee can state, that between mill-house, boiling-house, and still-house, the number which should be employed, must be from 16 to 20 where water-mills are, and where cattle-mills work the number must be more.		
51. The foregoing description of labour is scaled out for the 9 hours per diem, it being the wishes of the planters and managers generally in the parish, so as the labourer cannot tax managers withholding any boon from them. Further, your committee cannot conclude without expressing their sincere wish that his Excellency the Governor would express a wish to the special magistrates in the parish to endeavour and get the apprenticed labourers to adopt the task-work, if such scales as are sent in may be approved of, as it would be the means of doing away with a great deal of punishment; and if such could be attained, the feeling would be what any well-wisher would wish. The system would work better at present, and if so, must work still better in future.		

We have further to state, that a uniform system should be observed with the shells, either on sugar or coffee properties, as near as possible. Shells should be blown at one stated time by all. We have further to remark, that if a scale of wages could be worked upon by master and apprentice, and such scales fixed throughout every parish, it would tend to public good; and, if made on fair and equitable terms, would be, in a great measure, the means of settling the minds of the labourers in that respect, when in a state of freedom.

N. B.—There is a very bad practice prevailing in the parish; the Negroes are employed in their own time by small proprietors and others (who have no interest but for the present moment) at an exorbitant hire; the consequences of which is too evident to any observer. Their houses and grounds are going to destruction, and provisions extremely scarce; this, too, has a very bad tendency in another point of view, if we look forward to 1840. If this system is encouraged there will not be a Negro-ground in cultivation, or a dwelling standing, for their comfort and shelter; besides, what money they earn by those jobs is soon expended (in most instances) in scenes of degrading debauchery, and the Negro is without anything to sustain him for the ensuing week. Our sheep-pens, poultry-yards, &c., bear ample testimony how their wants are supplied. This is a subject of a very serious consideration for us, or perhaps for our Legislature. Your committee now conclude by stating, that they are not aware of any other description of labour which is performed in this parish, than what is remarked upon herein, and the remarks made are intended for the benefit of our labourers. On behalf of such committee appointed by your Honor,

I remain, &c.
(signed) *G. W. Park*, Chairman.

SCALE of LABOUR to be performed on Coffee Plantations, in Nine Hours, in the Parish of *St. Andrew*.

Clearing Land, per Acre.		No. of Pegs to be made by One Labourer.	Planting, per Acre.		Cleaning Coffee ; No. of Trees 6 ft. apart.			Pruning ; No. of Trees 6 ft. apart.				Picking Coffee.		
No. required to Underwood and Fall.	No. to Lop, Burn, and Clear for Planting.		No. required to Line and Peg.	No. of Plants to be put in by One ditto, ap. 6 ft.	When very foul.	Not very foul.	Billing Ruinate.	Four Years old.	Prime Coffee.	Old neglected.	Opening Trees.	Full bearing.	Moderate ditto.	One one.
32	40	600	3	135	125	140	200	160	65	150	100	3 bushels.	2 di	1 ditto

Picking for Market.		No. of Yam Hills each Labourer.			No. of Cocoas to plant.	No. of Labourers to plant One Acre of Corn.	No. to plant One Acre of Guinea-grass.	Sawing Boards ; a Pair of Sawyers in a Week, Pitting, &c.		No. of Shingles to be split by each Labourer.	No. of ditto to be dressed by each ditto.	No. of Fathoms of Pimento to be billed by each Apprentice.	Quantity of Pimento to be picked by ditto.	No. required to build a Stone Wall, 3 ft. at bottom, and 4 ft. high.
Clean and good.	Inferior trash.	In easy Land.	Rocky Land.	Cutting Sticks and Sticking.				Hardwood.	Cedar.					
180 lbs.	100 lbs.	80	50	100	120	4	20	160 ft.	180	400	200	200	1 sh.	3 labour-ers to a chain.

Approved of by the Constables in the different Districts.

(signed) *R. Smith*, Chairman, Western District.
Hinton East, Chairman, Eastern District.
Chas. Satchell, Red Hill District.

JAMAICA.

A SCALE of LABOUR to be performed by effective Apprenticed Labourers in the Upper Districts of *St. Thomas-in-the-Vale*. The Soil is a light black Mould on a rotten sandy Rock, or light sandy or Brick Mould ; the chief Productions are Coffee, Pimento, Ginger, Arrow Root, Ground Provisions of all Sorts, and some excellent Pasturage.

Description of Work.	Quantity of Work to be performed by one or more Labourers, in one Day of 9 Hours.
1. Cutting down wood land and cleaning, ready for planting coffee - - - - -	35 labourers per acre.
2. To fell and clear off ruinate land, and heap up and burn the same - - - - -	14 - per acre.
3. To prepare light ruinate, as above - - - - -	12 - per acre.
4. To hoe off common pasture land for corn or provisions - - - - -	12 - per acre.
5. To stocking up pastures, grubbing up bad weeds, when very foul - - - - -	8 - per acre.
6. To performing the same work, when the pastures have been cleared once a year and not foul - - - - -	4 - per acre.
7. To line land for coffee, in squares of 6 feet, 3 labourers employed - - - - -	1 acre per day, pegs being furnished.
8. Number of pegs, 18 inches long, to each labourer	1,000 per day.
9. To plant an acre of coffee, 6 feet square, with a stake, plants being furnished - - - - -	6 labourers per acre.
10. To dig an acre into holes, 10 inches deep, 6 inches wide, and plant the same with coffee - - - - -	14 labourers per acre.
11. Weeding an acre of young coffee, corn, or provisions - - - - -	8 per acre.

Description of Work.	Quantity of Work to be performed by one or more Labourers, in one Day of 9 Hours.
12. Hoeing an acre of bearing coffee, when very foul	10 per ditto, at same time to strip the tree of suckers, parasite plants, &c.
13. Quantity of ripe coffee each labourer to pick and deliver, distance not exceeding one mile; viz.	
When in heavy bearing - - - -	3 bushels of 9 imperial gallons.
When in moderate ditto - - - -	2 ditto - ditto.
When in scanty ditto - - - -	1 ditto - ditto.
To pick up ground coffee - - - -	$\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ ditto - ditto.
14. To sorting coffee in the house, fit for market when pulped; viz.	
First quality, including sifting - - - -	- 180 lbs. each labourer.
When cured in the cherry - - - -	- 116 lbs. ditto.
Re-sorting the triage - - - -	- 200 lbs. ditto.
15. Two men pulping by hand machine - - - -	14 bushels per hour.
16. To prune coffee, when heavy - - - -	50 trees each labourer.
17. To prune coffee, when light - - - -	100 ditto - ditto.
18. To picking pimento off the trees, one lopper and four strippers, when in heavy bearing - - - -	2 barrels (a herring-barrel with bottom out).
Same in light bearing - - - -	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ barrel.
19. To winnowing and bagging of pimento - - - -	10 bags to each labourer.
20. To dig yam hills, the hole 2 feet diameter, 1 foot deep, filling up same with trash, and heaping up mould thereon - - - -	100 each labourer.
21. To plant cocoas at 3 feet square, digging holes and putting in the plant, plants being furnished - - - -	6 per acre.
22. To plant plaintain suckers, plants being furnished	300 each labourer.
23. To plant great corn, 4 feet by 2 feet, with the digging-bill - - - -	3 per acre.
24. To hole land for corn with the hoe, 4 feet by 2 feet	4 per acre.
25. To plant same with seed corn - - - -	1 per acre.
26. To building dry stone walls, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet broad at the base, 10 inches at top, and 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet high, and carrying the stones within 200 yards distance - - - -	24 to the chain.
27. To making mortice-posts (3 holes) - - - -	10 posts each labourer.
28. To setting up mortice posts and rail fence, 6 feet distance apart, materials being on the spot - - - -	2 labourers to 5 chains.
29. To making stake and rail fence, materials being on the spot - - - -	1 labourer to 1 chain.
30. To digging ditches, 5 feet by 1 wide and 3 feet deep - - - -	4 labourers to 1 chain.
31. Quantity of lumber a pair of sawyers are to cut through, assistance being given to pit the lumber - - - -	50 feet.
32. A gang of 4 men to fell, cross cut, and split shin- gles, 22 inches long and 3 to 5 feet wide - - - -	800.
33. Same for staves, 42 inches long - - - -	400.
34. To hew or draw shingles - - - -	350 to each labourer.
35. To hew staves - - - -	200 to each ditto.
36. Road-work: Quantity of stones a labourer should break, no piece to be larger than a hen's egg, or weigh more than 4 ounces, materials being on the spot - - - -	4 barrels to each labourer.
37. Lime-kiln: cutting wood - - - -	1 cord per day each labourer.
38. Quarrying and breaking stones - - - -	4 barrels each labourer.
39. Digging-in ginger, from a good bearing - - - -	5 to 6 bushels, equal to 300 or 360 lbs. each labourer.

JAMAICA.

Description of Work.		Quantity of Work to be performed by one or more Labourers, in one Day of 9 hours.
40. Same from ruinate, or bearing indifferently	-	200 to 250 lbs. each labourer.
41. Handscraping ginger, when dug	- - -	55 lbs. each labourer.
42. Digging and handscraping	- - -	30 lbs. each labourer.
43. Digging-in arrow root	- - - -	6 bushels of 60 lbs. each.
44. Digging and peeling ditto	- - -	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel each..
45. Opening or holeing land for ginger or arrow root, 1 foot square	- - - - -	15 labourers per acre.
46. Planting ginger or arrow root	- - - -	8 ditto per ditto.
47. Cutting grass and tying it	- - - -	40 bundles of 28 lbs. each.
48. Carrying boards, light timber, shingles, corn, &c.	-	3 miles per hour, load 50 to 60 lbs.
49. Breaking-in great corn and husking same	- -	10 bushels each labourer.
50. Weighing, threshing, and winnowing great corn	-	6 bushels each labourer.

(signed)

R. R. Parker, Ragville.
R. M. White, Carew Castle.
William Worger, Rio Magno.
Isaac Lyon, Rentcombe.
Edward Wright, Belgar.

A SCALE of LABOUR to be performed [by Able APPRENTICES on the Sugar Properties,
St. Thomas-in-the-Vale.

Cultivation.	Description of Work to be performed by Able People in a Day of 9 Hours.	Number of Apprentices required to perform such Work by the Acre, or otherwise.
1. Preparing Land: Clearing off land formerly in cultivation, and preparing it for standing pens; carrying the hoeings and trash into the pens, each being 40 feet square, 3 to the acre	- -	6 apprentices to each pen, or 18 per acre.
2. Digging post holes for cattle-pens or fences	-	108 for each labourer.
3. Heaping up the manure on these pens, each having 25 to 30 cart loads, well digested	- - -	6 to each pen.
4. Cane Holes: Digging cane-holes of 4 feet square, 8 inches deep; viz.		
In stony land	- - - -	60 holes.
In stiff clayey soil	- - - -	70 ditto.
In deep black mould	- - - -	80 ditto.
In light or sandy soil	- - - -	90 ditto.
Opening holes after the plough	- - - -	12 per acre.
5. Manuring: Dropping manure and planting canes	-	28 ditto.
6. Planting canes alone	- - - -	10 ditto.
7. Planting: First cleaning and supplying plant canes	-	10 ditto.
8. Second cleaning and light moulding	- - -	14 ditto.
9. Banking and taking off any loose trash	- -	14 ditto.
10. Cleaning: First trashing of plants	- - -	8 ditto.
11. Canes: Second trashing d bedding	-	12 ditto.
12. - Third ditto and ditto	- -	12 ditto.
13. Turning trash	- - - -	5 ditto.
14. Cleaning and moulding ratoons, trash having been turned sometime previous	- - -	ditto.

Cultivation.	Description of Work to be performed by able People in a Day of 9 Hours.	Number of Apprentices required to perform such Work by the Acre, or otherwise.
15.	Thrashing ratoons for the first time, and cleaning	12 per acre.
16.	Ditto ditto for the last time - - -	6 ditto.
17.	Cutting Canes: Cutting plant canes (cultivation as above), and yielding not under 2 hogsheads per acre, to make a hogshead sugar, including tyers - - - - -	9 labourers.
18.	Cutting ratoon canes to make a hogshead sugar, yielding a hogshead per acre - - -	13 ditto.
19.	Number of cart loads to be carried to the field, not exceeding half-a-mile distant from works -	12 cart loads.
20.	Mill house Department: Number of people required about the mill, if a water-mill, grinding 300 gallons per hour - - - -	9.
	If a cattle-mill, extra hands - - - -	5.
	If ratoon canes, 250 gallons per hour.	
21.	Boiling-house: Number of people required about the boiling-house to boil a hogshead sugar, having only one set of coppers - - -	8, including trash-carriers.
	In still-house, to make five puncheons weekly, requiring no water to be carried - -	2.
22.	Wainage: Carrying out manure, marl, or loam, to a distance not exceeding half a mile - -	16 loads each cart.
	Loaders for the same - - - - -	2 for each cart.
23.	Cutting wood, in cords of 8 feet and 4 by 4 feet -	1 for each cord.
	Cutting bamboos on same scale - - -	1 for two cords.
24.	Cutting grass, by persons usually employed at such labour - - - - -	2 cart loads of grass, carts for each.
25.	Picking cane tops - - - - -	4 cart loads for each.
26.	Cutting and making mortice-posts, with 3 mortices in each - - - - -	10 posts each.
	Ditto - - mortice-posts, with 4 mortices -	8 ditto.
27.	Falling, cross cutting, and splitting heading for hogsheads - - - - -	150 pieces each.
28.	Making hogsheads, each cooper - - - -	1 hogshead complete
	Making tierces - - - - -	1 tierce and a half.
	Making puncheons, in a week of 40 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours -	3 puncheons complete for one cooper.

(signed) *John Munro.*
George Rees.
Robert Roach.
John Aris.
Hor. Stevens.

A SCALE of AGRICULTURAL and other LABOUR, on the Nine Hours' System, to be performed by the Apprentices on the Sugar and other Plantations, &c. &c. in the Parish of *St. John*, as fixed by Average of general Opinion, given at a Meeting of the Proprietors, Managers, and others, held for that purpose at *Point Hill*, on Saturday the 5th day of November 1836, and simplified by the Committee that was there appointed this 16th day of June 1837.

Cultivation of the Sugar Cane.

Chopping up and heaping cattle-pens; number of able hands for each heap of 55 wain loads, 11.

Stocking-up or hoeing-off the usual description of fallow cane-lands, preparatory to re-opening; per acre, 10 to 12.

Digging cane-holes on particularly stiff land, dimensions 4 feet by 4, and depth 6 to 8 inches; number of holes per day each able hand, 55.

Digging cane-holes on all other descriptions of land, dimensions 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet by 4, and depth 8 to 10 inches; number of holes per day each able hand, 60.

Cross-holing; number of able hands per acre, 15.

Distributing dung from heaps, each heap being in the centre of an acre, giving as above stated; number of able hands per acre, 19.

Trimming cane-tops in the intervals, carrying and planting the same, and moderately trenching the land; number of able hands per acre, 10.

Weeding and supplying young plant canes; number of able hands per acre, 10 to 12.

Root-trashing and full-banking plant canes; number of able hands per acre, 14 to 16.

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First and second trashing of plant canes; number of able hands per acre, 6 to 8.
 Subsequent trashings, bedding the lodged canes; number of able hands per 8 to 10.
 Turning trash and digging corn-holes through ratoons; number of able hands per acre, 6.
 Subsequent hoeings and mouldings of ratoons; number of able hands per acre, 10.
 Trashing ratoons; number of able hands per acre, 7.
 Cutting and tying plant canes; number of able hands per acre, 9.
 Cutting and tying ratoons; number of able hands per acre, 12.
 An able hand to dig and load wains, with dung or mould, at the rate of one load per hour.

Coffee Cultivation.

Cleaning and suckering well-established coffee; number of able hands per acre, 11.
 Cleaning and suckering old coffee pieces; number of able hands per acre, 16.
 Field picking (carrying home 1 bushel to barbicues) from well-established pruned and full-bearing coffee, each able hand 8 bushels per diem.
 Hand picking and sorting for market well-cured fair average coffee, each able hand 2 bushels per diem.

Pimento Cultivation.

One breaker being allowed to 4 pickers, each able picker $1\frac{1}{2}$ bushel per diem.
 Hand picking, fanning, sorting, and bagging for market, each able hand 5 bags per diem.

Cleaning Pastures, Erecting Fences, &c. &c.

Cleaning guinea-grass pieces, once per annum; number of able hands per acre, 5.
 Cleaning common pastures, once per annum; number of able hands per acre, 6.
 Digging post-holes, each hole to be 2 feet deep; number of holes for an able hand per diem, 120.
 Making good 4-eye mortice-posts, and heaping the same in one spot; number of posts for an able hand per diem, 6.
 Making good 3-eye mortice-posts, and heaping the same in one spot; number of posts for an able hand per diem, 8.
 Cutting and heaping in one spot fence-rails 16 feet long in ditto; number of rails for an able hand per diem, 65.
 Cutting and heaping in one spot bundles of wattles 7 feet long, 25 wattles each bundle; number of bundles for an able hand per diem, 20.
 Cutting and heaping in one spot bamboos; number of bamboos for an able hand per diem, 80.
 One able hand to cut and heap one cord of wood per diem.
 Two able hands to complete 200 feet of mortice-post and rail-fence per diem, post-holes being dug, and materials on the spot.
 One able hand to dig 8 feet of ditch 4 feet deep, $4\frac{1}{2}$ wide at top, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ at bottom, and throw up bank therefrom, per diem.
 One able hand to plant penguins along 100 feet of such bank per diem.
 One able hand to dig 60 good yam-hills per diem.
 Building dry walls $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet high, all materials being placed convenient, 2 builders to complete 33 feet per diem.
 Breaking limestones for kiln very small, each able hand to break $2\frac{1}{2}$ barrels per diem.
 Number of bricks to be moulded per diem by one moulder, having the customary assistants, 1,500.

Coopers' Work.

Each cooper to make complete 3 puncheons per week from white-oak staves, and 4 ditto from pucheon packs; each cooper to complete 6 tierces per week. Each cooper to complete $4\frac{1}{2}$ sugar hogsheads from red-oak, or 4 from country staves per week. Each cooper to head up 7 hogsheads sugar per diem. Each two able hands sent to the woods to split 1,800 shingles, or 900 staves, including all work, per week. Each cooper to hew 675 staves, or 1,350 shingles, per week.

We, the committee appointed, do return the above Report, and declare the same to be a fair and equitable scale of labour, to the best of our knowledge, information and experience.

(signed) *Thomas Bowden,*
Jno. Boorra,
E. W. Bourke,
John Price Nash, } Planters.
 Millwright.

A CONCENTRATED SCALE OF LABOUR formed from Returns made by the various Chairmen of Committees appointed for Districts in the parish of *Westmoreland*, by a General Meeting held at *Savanna-la-Mar*, on Saturday the 18th of March, instant, calculated for a day of nine hours.

Description of Labour.	Number of Apprentices required, &c.	
	1st Class.	2d Class.
1. Falling, clearing, and burning off wood land for canes, provisions, or guinea-grass - - - - -	3 ²	
2. Cleaning off land formerly in cultivation, and preparing same for penning, according to the state of the land, from - - - -	8 to 16	
3. Digging post-holes for one acre, and removing pen - - - -	-	6
4. Ploughing stiff (penned) land into cane-holes, with 30 steers, cattle spelled 3 times a day with 10 each, a day to plough 1 acre	2	3
5. Ploughing (plain) by the bed, in stiff three quarters of an acre, and in light land 1 acre (stock as No. 4) - - - -	2	3
6. Trenching land with the plough land which has already been in cultivation, beds 16 feet wide, (stock as No. 4) 10 acres - -	2	3
7. Trenching out same trenches with the hoe afterwards, per 1 acre -	4	
8. Trenching new land in 16 feet beds, trenches 30 inches wide, if free from stones and wood roots and including diagonal trenches, for 1 acre - - - - -	18	
9. Digging cane holes on light soils (4 feet trench) 110 for each male - - - - -	1	
10. - - - - - On stiff soils (ditto) 90 for ditto - - - - -	1	
11. - - - - - On light soils (ditto) for each female 100 - - - -	1	
12. - - - - - On stiff soils (ditto) ditto ditto 80 - - - -	1	
13. Dropping dung at the rate of 60 cart loads per acre, conveniently placed in thin heaps of 20 loads on the acre, for each acre -	13	
14. Planting ploughed land not cleaned out - - - - -	12 to 15	
15. Drawing and tying canes for each 7 to plant - - - - -	3 to 5	
16. Planting ditto with great corn, and dropping the tops, planting canes for each acre on cleaned out land - - - - -	10 to 1	
17. Cleaning canes, first cleaning, and supplying per acre - - -	13	
18. Ditto - - Second ditto and moulding ditto - - - -	12	
19. Ditto - - Banking and cleaning off any loose trash - - -	10	
20. Ditto - - First trashing off plants per acre - - - -	8	
21. Ditto - - Second ditto and bedding ditto - - - -	9	
22. Ditto - - Third ditto ditto - - - - -	10	
23. Ratoons, turning trash and moulding ratoon canes and cleaning out trenches, if foul, per acre - - - - -	12	
24. Ditto Cleaning ratoons for the second time, and trashing -	7	
25. Ditto Third trashing - - - - -	6	
26. Cutting canes, cutting canes yielding 2 hogsheads per acre, including tyers for each hogshead sugar, 42 inch truss - - -	6	8
27. Ditto - - ditto yielding one and a half ditto - - - -	9	3
28. Ditto - - ditto yielding one ditto - - - - -	11	4
29. Ditto - - ditto yielding half ditto - - - - -	13	4
30. Cart work; canes, number of loads capable of being carried by one cart at the following distances, allowing 1 loader, 1 carman, and 1 boy for each cart, half a mile, 15 loads - - - -	2	1
31. - - - - quarter ditto, 20 ditto - - - - -	2	1
And in that proportion for a greater or lesser distance.		
32. Manure, marl, or loam, &c.; Number of loads capable of being carried by one cart at the following distances: half a mile, 15 loads; quarter ditto, 20 loads.		
In the same proportion also for more or less distance.		
33. For half a mile, number of loaders - - - - -	3	
34. For quarter ditto - - - - -	4	
35. Under that - - - - -	5	
36. Cutting wood, in cords of 8 feet by 4 feet, and four for 1 cord -	1	
37. Bamboo rails, 3 cart loads - - - - -	1	
38. Cutting grass, one and a half cart loads a day, or 12 mule loads	1	
39. Picking long cane-tops, two trash cart loads or 16 mule loads -	1	
40. Carrying same at half mile distance, 8 trash cart loads per day -	1	
41. For 12 turns of 3 mules - - - - -	1	
42. Quarter of a mile distance, 12 of the cart and 15 of the mules per day - - - - -	1	
43. Planting grass, preparing land per acre, the same as No. 2 -	8 to 16	
44. Ditto - - Digging grass holes and planting - - - -	16	
45. Ditto - - Drawing plants per acre - - - - -	4	
46. Ditto - - Carriage of grass plants the same as No. 27.		
47. Ditto - - Cleaning same - - - - -	6	

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Description of Labour.	Number of Apprentices required, &c.	
	1st class.	2d class.
37. Planting grass, when foul, but cleaned annually - - -	8	
38. Ditto - - - common pasture, cleaned annually - - -	6	
39. Ditto - - - when foul - - - - -	8	
40. Planting corn, in cane land, per acre - - - - -	7	
41. Provisions, falling land, and preparing for, per acre, see No. 1. -	52	
42. Ditto - digging and raising yam-hills 6 feet asunder, 50 per day	1	
43. Ditto - digging cocoa-holes, cutting plants, planting and covering the same, to an acre - - - - -	24	
44. Ditto - digging and planting plantain suckers (placed conveniently) at 7 feet distance, per acre - - - - -	14	
45. Chipping logwood, a man and a woman to give 5 cwt. per day -	1	
Ditto - - - - a man only, 3 cwt. per day - - - - -	1	
46. Fustic, a man and a woman to give 6 cwt. per day - - -	2	
A man only, 4 cwt. per day - - - - -	1	
47. Splitting shingles, to fall, cross-cut, and split 1,000 per day -	6	
Ditto - - - - hewing 250 shingles per day - - - - -	1	
48. Ditto - - - - drawing cedar or soft-wood shingles, 300 per day - - - - -	1	
49. Ditto - - - - jointing same, 600 per day - - - - -	1	
50. Sawing boards, plank and scantling, the lumber pitched, pitted, and lined, 60 feet a day - - - - -	2	
51. Mortice-posts for cattle-pens, to make 6 mortice-posts, with 4 mortices in each post - - - - -	1	
52. Building stone walls, building 3 ½ feet in base, 16 inches on top, and 4 ½ feet high (the stones to be at hand), 1 chain per day -	6	
53. Penguin bank, to raise one 8 feet base, and 4 feet ditch on each side, per chain, if penguins put at hand - - - - -	20	
54. Logwood fences, to dig the trench, and plant the same, plants put to hand, 1 chain - - - - -	6	
55. Ditto - - - - trimming the same, if annually, 4 chains a day -	2	
Ditto - - - - if half-yearly, 8 chains a day - - - - -	2	
56. Lime-kilns, to fall wood for, and pack open lime-kiln, break stone, and complete same, at per hogshead of 24 bushels	8	
57. Baskets, trash baskets (withes provided), 4 a day - - -	1	
58. Ditto - dung ditto (ditto), 6 a day - - - - -	1	
59. Mule pads, making (trash and bark provided), 6 per diem - -	1	
60. Cattle ropes, 20 feet long, platting, &c., 3 per day - - -	1	
61. Hogsheads, 1 complete per diem - - - - -	1	
62. Tierces, 3 complete in two days - - - - -	1	
63. Puncheons, to make 2 puncheons complete per diem - - -	3	
64. Shingling, 1 square per diem - - - - -	1	
65. Mills, a water-mill, grinding 380 gallons of liquor per hour, taking the average of canes, number of hands required - - - - -	12	
66. A steam-engine, grinding 400 gallons - - - - -	14	
67. Cattle-mill, grinding 250 gallons - - - - -	12	4
68. Boiling-house, number of people required in the boiling-house, if of a single set of coppers, with trash carriers, firemen, potters, &c., included, to make 1 ½ hogshead, with good fuel - - -	7	4
69. Still-house, the labour required to carry on the work of a still-house, upon an estate making 1 ½ hogshead a day, is equal to that of 1 man for 7 days - - - - -	1	
70. Ginger, hoe-ploughing 1 acre - - - - -	20	
Ditto - drilling or holing to plant, per acre - - - - -	8	
Ditto - preparing plants, per acre - - - - -	2	
Ditto - dropping and covering the plants, per acre - - -	2	
Ditto - weeding, first time, per acre - - - - -	15	
Ditto - second time, and moulding - - - - -	15	
Ditto - third ditto, ditto - - - - -	10	
Ditto - digging ginger, 500 lbs. per diem - - - - -	1	
Ditto - scraping or peeling, 25 lbs. ditto - - - - -	1	
71. Pimento, when plentiful, 2 bushels per diem - - - - -	1	
72. Coffee, when good, to pick 3 bushels ditto - - - - -	1	
73. Breaking stones, according to M'Adam's system, 6 barrels a day -	1	

Memorandum.—The above scale refers principally to work capable of being performed by able and effective people, male and female. The work of the inferior classes will be regulated by that scale, and in proportions according with their age, capability, capacity, and health.

Thomas M'Neel, Chairman.

At a MEETING of the COMMITTEE, No. 3, appointed to form a SCALE OF LABOUR, &c. for the Parish of *Port-Royal*, held at *Resource*, 26th November 1836, the following rates were agreed on, a Day of nine hours.

To fall one acre of heavy woodland, 10 able hands to the acre.

To lop and clear the same fit for planting, supposing the weather favourable, 30 able hands to the acre.

To line, dig holes, and plant the same, 6 feet by 6, supposing the plants to be convenient, 20 able hands to the acre.

To clean young coffee, 8 to 10 able hands to the acre.

To clean well-established coffee, 8 able hands to the acre.

To clean old coffee, 12 to 14 able hands to the acre.

To prune well-established coffee, 20 able hands to the acre.

To pick ditto in the field, when in full bearing, 3 bushels to each able hand.

To pick coffee in store for market, 100 to 180 lbs. to each able hand.

To cut grass where plentiful and convenient, 16 bundles at 28lbs. each able person.

Ditto - where otherwise, 8 bundles at 28lbs. each able person.

To dig yam hills 2 feet square, 15 inches deep, 60 to 80 hills to each able person.

To dig trenches for potatoes, 12 able hands to one acre.

To dig hills for sweet potatoes and arracacha, 12 able hands to one acre.

To clean grass pieces, Guinea grass, 5 able hands to one acre.

Ditto - - - - - Common pasture, 6 able hands to one acre.

To sawing inch boards, each pair of sawyers in the woods, including falling and pitting hard wood, 120 feet a week of 40½ hours.

Ditto - - - - if soft wood, cedar, &c. 200 feet a week of 40½ hours.

To fall, cross-cut, and split shingles in the woods, 1,350 from two able hands per week of 40½ hours.

To dress the same fit for putting on, 1,350 each hand per week of 40½ hours.

To nail on country shingles, open work, 500 each carpenter per day.

John Wiles.

Simon Taylor.

Jas. Brooks.

Austin Clarke.

Wm. Geo. Lowry.

George Dixon.

John Hogg.

Donald Watt.

Thos. Davidson.

JAMAICA, ss.—*Saint Dorothy*.—A CONSOLIDATED SCALE of LABOUR, compiled at the request of his Excellency the Governor, from three Reports which had been prepared by the several Committees appointed at a general Meeting of the Planters and other Inhabitants of this Parish, for the purpose of ascertaining the fair Quantity of Labour for an able Apprentice, in a day of nine hours.

Canes.

Cleaning land for digging cane holes in the mountains	- - -	12 per acre.
Digging holes or trenches 4½ by 4 inches, 8 inches deep (in the lowlands)	- - - - -	From 60 to 70 each.
Ditto - - - 4½ by 4 inches, 9 inches deep (after the plough)	- - - - -	80 to 100 each.
Ditto - - - - if in the mountain district, according to circumstances	- - - - -	50 to 80 each.
Manure, at 40 loads per acre, the same being placed at suitable distances	- - - - -	25 to 30 children.
Planting, cleaning out and planting in the trench	- - -	10 to 12 per acre.
Ditto, if in cross holes	- - - - -	5 per acre.
Weeding, first cleaning, children or weakly persons	- - -	10 to 12 per acre.
Ditto - second - - - ditto.	- - - - -	8 to 10 ditto.
Ditto - third - - - ditto and banking (able people)	- - -	10 to 12 ditto.
Ditto, cleaning and trashing plants, in the mountain district	- - -	12 per acre.
Ratoons, turning trash, shortly after cutting	- - - - -	4 per ditto.
Ditto trashing and moulding	- - - - -	8 per ditto.
Ditto subsequent trashing and cleaning	- - - - -	5 per ditto.
Cutting and tying: to cut and tie per hogshead, the cane-fields having been properly attended to	- - - - -	10 to 12 per hogs.

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Guinea Corn.

Hoeing, (according to the soil and the state of the weather)	From 8 to 12 per acre.
Holing - - ditto - - - - -	8 to 10 per ditto.
Planting - - ditto - - - - -	3 to 5 per ditto.
1st. cleaning ditto - - - - -	8 to 10 per ditto.
2d. ditto and singling ditto - - - - -	8 to 10 per ditto.
Singling and supplying ditto - - - - -	8 to 10 per ditto.
Cleaning and moulding ditto - - - - -	8 to 10 per ditto.

Coffee.

Field picking, 1st picking, full bearing	3 bushels per day.
Ditto - - 2d ditto - - - - -	2 ditto per ditto.
Ditto - - 3d ditto - - - - -	1 ditto per ditto.
Hand-picking in the house, if pulped	3 ditto per ditto.
Ditto - - - - - not pulped	2 ditto per ditto.
Cleaning the fields and suckering the coffee-trees, per acre	10 to 12 per acre.

Pimento.

Cleaned picked pimento, each person	1 bushel per day.
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Pastures.

Guinea-grass, 1st hoeing for holing	10 per acre.
Ditto - - digging for planting	16 per ditto.
Ditto - - planting	16 per ditto.
Ditto - - cleaning and hoeing same	8 per ditto.
Common, cleaning and burning off the bush from common pastures	3 to 8 per acre.

Fencing.

Digging ditch 4 feet wide at top, 2 feet at bottom, and 3 feet deep	12 ft. per day each.
Ditto - - - 5 feet ditto	10 ft. per day each.
Renewing an old fence, dimensions as above	15 ft. per day.
Planting penguins requires at least 4 hands (4 chains, or)	1 chain each per day.

Cutting Wood.

The cord being 8 feet long, 4 feet wide, and 4 feet high, closely packed	3 labourers to cut 2 cords per day.
Mortice-posts, cutting and holing mortice-posts, 4 holes in each (of cashaw)	6 per day.
Ditto - - - in the mountains	8 per day.
Staves, to split for hogsheads	80 per day.
Heading - - - ditto	50 per day.
Shingles - - - ditto	300 per day.
Boards, sawyers, each pair to saw	50 feet per day.

Fodder.

Of Guinea-grass, by weakly people, one wain-load for each person per day.

Picking up cane tops by ditto, two ditto.

Bricks.

Stock bricks, one moulder, with 7 assistants (under ordinary circumstances) - 1,500 per day.

N. B.—The soil in the Bushy Park district is of a deep brick mould, except upon Amity-hall estate, where it is a thin black mould upon clay.

The district of the Lodge, Whim, &c. consists chiefly of a black mould upon clay, in some parts a fine brick mould.

The soil of the mountain district is chiefly of a light sandy nature upon rock, partly rotten and partly lime-stone.

The land now in cultivation has long since been occupied in the production of the various articles to which the Report refers.

W. Jackson,
Senior Magistrate, St. Dorothy.

IN compliance with the request of his Honor the Custos, the proprietors, attornies, and managers of estates and coffee mountains, in the parish of *St. David*, met at *Easington* on the 19th day of November 1836, to take into consideration the recommendation of his Excellency the Governor, as to the fixing of a GENERAL SCALE of LABOUR, when two committees were appointed.

The committees made their report at another meeting, held on the 26th day of November, when the Scale of Labour hereunto annexed was fixed on and agreed to, as best adapted to the parish generally.

(signed) *George Parker*, Senior Magistrate.

At a General Meeting of the magistrates, proprietors, attornies, and managers of the different properties, in the parish of *St. David*, called by *George Parker, Esq.*, senior magistrate, by desire of his Honor the Custos, on Saturday, the 19th day of November 1836, for the purpose of forming a Scale of Labour to be performed by Apprenticed Labourers in the said parish, we, the undersigned, having been named a Committee for such purpose, beg to submit the following :

For Sugar Estates :

Number of cane-holes, four feet square, each apprentice ought to dig per day, from 75 to 85.

	Apprentices.
Stocking land for jobbers, &c. - - - we consider an acre land can be done easily by - - - - -	6
Dropping manure - - - we consider an acre land can be dropped with manure daily by - - - - -	15
Planting canes - - - we consider an acre of land can be planted daily by - - - - -	15
Weeding young canes - - - we consider an acre can be weeded daily by - - -	8
Cleaning, supplying, and giving bank - - - we consider an acre can be done daily by - - -	8
Turning trash and moulding canes - - - we consider an acre ought to be done daily by - - - - -	10
Trashing canes - - - we consider an acre can be done daily by - - -	10
Cutting canes and tying - - - we consider sufficient can be cut and tied to make a hogshead sugar daily from plants by - - - - -	8
	From ratoons by - - - - - 12
Carrying canes to the mill-yard - - - we consider that 6 mules and 1 wain ought to carry sufficient to make 1 hogshead sugar per diem, from a distance of not more than quarter of a mile - - -	2
Wain loaders - - - we consider that wains carrying home canes for 2 hogsheads sugar daily can be loaded by - - - - -	2
Carrying canes to the mill, feeders, green trash carriers, &c., capable of making 2 hogsheads per day - - - we consider, including potters - - -	17
Picking long tops - - - we consider that 3 wain or 27 mule loads can be picked and bundled by - - -	2
Cutting grass for pens - - - we consider that 20 bundles, of 28 lbs. weight, can be cut by (by those usually employed on estates) - - - - -	1

Coffee :

Underwooding, falling, and preparing land for the line, per acre - - -	100 to 120 hands on virgin soil.
Planting, per acre - - -	we consider 16 hands.
Cleaning a field in regular cultivation - - -	we consider 10 hands, and, if very foul, 14.
Pruning coffee - - -	we consider 60 to 80 trees each apprentice.
Pruning, long neglected - - -	we consider 30 to 50 trees each apprentice.
Field picking coffee, and carrying same to receiver - - -	we consider from 1 to 3 bushels, according to the ripening of the field ; but when fully ripe, 3 bushels, able hands, and 2 bushels second gang daily.
Hand picking coffee - - -	we consider first quality 3 bushels, inferior 2 bushels.
Splitting staves and heading - - -	we consider 160 per day for each apprentice.
Splitting shingles - - -	we consider 200 - - - ditto.
Trussing and raising tierces - - -	we consider 1 for each cooper per day.
Sawing cedar and other soft woods - - -	we consider 40 feet per day for 2 sawyers.

Pens :

Labourers, per acre, billing pasture, rather foul, per day - - -	8
Ditto to burn 2 acres dry bush per day - - -	1
Ditto to clean 3 chains penguin fence on bank per day - - -	2
Ditto to throw up a chain of banking, with a ditch on one side 2 feet deep and 3 feet wide - - -	13
Ditto to clear off an acre common pasture land for corn, per day - - -	10
Ditto to dig an acre of land into corn-holes upon a square of 2 feet - - -	2
Ditto to plant an acre of land with seed corn per day - - -	1
Ditto to hoe, mould, and single an acre Guinea corn per day - - -	8
Ditto to gather from the field 10 bushels Guinea corn - - -	1
Ditto - - - 15 ditto Indian corn - - -	1
Ditto to thrash out and winnow 5 bushels Guinea corn per day - - -	-
Ditto to dig and make up 120 yam-holes, 12 inches square, per day - - -	6
Ditto to hoe and plant an acre land in Guinea grass, plants on the spot - - -	3

(signed) *Edward Delpratt.* *William Pearce.*
Michael M'Ternan. *Forsyth Innes Tarbutt.*
Donald M'Pherson.

JAMAICA.

A GENERAL SCALE of LABOUR, to be performed by effective Apprentices during a Day of Nine Hours, in the Parish of *St. Elizabeth*.

Description of Work.	Number of Apprentices required to perform per Acre, or otherwise, said Work.
<i>Sugar.</i>	
1. Cleaning off land formerly in cultivation, and preparing it for standing pens, carrying the hoeing into the pens, being 40 feet square, one in each acre - -	18 apprentices per acre.
2. Digging post-holes for cattle-pens or fences - -	60 holes for 1 apprentice.
3. Moving a half-acre wheeling-pen - - - -	4 apprentices per pen.
4. Heaping up the manure in a pen, having 60 cart loads well digested - - - -	25 apprentices per pen.
5. Digging cane-holes of 4 feet square, 6 inches deep, in very stiff-clayed soil - - - -	90 each apprentice.
Ditto - - deep black mould - - - -	100 ditto.
Ditto - - light or sandy soil - - - -	120 ditto.
Opening holes after the plough - - - -	250 ditto.
Ditto ploughed land along the bed - - - -	200 ditto.
6. Dropping manure, and planting canes, when the manure and canes are on the spot - - - -	30 apprentices per acre.
7. Planting canes alone - - - -	12 ditto.
8. First cleaning and supplying plant canes - - - -	11 ditto.
9. Second cleaning, and light moulding - - - -	12 ditto.
10. Banking and taking off any loose trash - - - -	12 ditto.
11. First trashing off plants - - - -	8 ditto.
12. Second trashing, and bedding - - - -	10 ditto.
13. Third ditto (if lodged) - - - -	12 ditto.
14. Turning trash and supplying - - - -	6 ditto.
15. Cleaning and moulding ratoons, trash having been turned some time previous - - - -	10 ditto.
16. Trashing ratoons for the first time, and cleaning - -	9 ditto.
17. Trashing ratoons for the last time - - - -	8 ditto.
18. Cutting plant canes (cultivation as above), and yielding 2 hogsheads per acre, to make a hogshead sugar, tyers, constable, and cook - - - -	18 ditto.
19. Cutting ratoon canes, to make a hogshead sugar, yielding a hogshead per acre, including ditto - - - -	24 ditto.
20. Number of cart-loads to be carried to the field, not exceeding half a mile from the works, with one loader - -	14 ditto.
21. Number of persons required about the mill, if a water-mill grinding 300 gallons per hour, 12, if a cattle-mill, extra hands, 4; if ratoon canes, 250 gallons per hour, 12 apprentices.	
22. Number of people required about a boiling-house to boil a hogshead of sugar, having only one set of coppers, including dry trash carriers and potters - -	12 apprentices.
In still-house to make 5 puncheons weekly, requiring no water to be carried - - - -	2 apprentices per acre.
23. Carrying manure out, marl, or loam, to a distance not exceeding half a mile per day, 14 loads; loaders for the same, 3 to each cart.	
24. Cutting wood in cords of 6 feet by 6, and 4 feet, 1 cord per day; cutting bamboos on the same scale - -	2 ditto.
25. Cutting grass by persons usually employed at such labour, per day each - - - -	8 mule loads.
26. Picking cane tops - - - -	16 ditto.
27. Cutting and making mortice-posts, with 3 mortices to each, 8 per day; ditto, having 4 mortices, 6 per day.	
28. Boatage from Elm-wharf to Black River and back, say with 8 hogsheads and 8 hands, to receive pay, cox swain, 5s., men, 3s. 4d., each per week - -	2 trips per week.
29. Boatage from Haughton, Biscany, and Barton wharfs, 10 or 12 hogsheads each trip, with 7 hands each, boat's crew of 7 to receive 6s. 8d. in lieu of lost time, which is not to be paid back - - - -	3 ditto.

SLAVERY IN THE BRITISH COLONIES.

75

Description of Work.

Number of Apprentices required to perform per Acre, or otherwise, said Work.

JAMAICA.

Sugar—continued.

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| 30. Boatage from Lacovia, Holland, and Y.S. wharves, with 8 or 12 hogsheads, and 8 hands, to receive no pay - | 3 trips per week. |
| 31. Falling, cross-cutting, and splitting heading for hogsheads, 100 per day; ditto for staves for ditto, 100 per day. | — |
| 32. Making hogsheads complete, each cooper, 1 per day; ditto tierces per week, ditto, 6 tierces; ditto puncheons per ditto, 3 puncheons. | — |

Coffee.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. Falling virgin woodland, lopping, logging, heaping up, and burning heaps - - - - - | 40 apprentices per acre. |
| 2. Clearing up ruinate land to be ready for planting - - - - - | 15 ditto. |
| 3. Making pegs, each labourer per day - - - - - | 600 pegs. |
| 4. Lining land for coffee, 5 feet square - - - - - | 6 apprentices per acre. |
| 5. Pulling up coffee-suckers, and planting ditto - - - - - | 8 ditto. |
| 6. Weeding coffee where the land has been hand-weeded, 3 apprentices per acre; where the galls are few, and moderately foul, 5 ditto; when very foul, 10 ditto. | — |
| 7. Pruning trees, from 3 to 6 years old, 200 trees each; upwards of six years old, that have been kept in good order, 80 ditto; that have been planted from ruinate and light soil, 200 ditto; large old trees that have been neglected, 40 ditto. | — |
| 8. Hand slipping, double the quantity each labourer can prune. | — |
| 9. Picking ripe coffee from prime fields in full bearing, and carrying it to the works, each 1 barrel; bearing moderately, each 2-3d barrel; picking ripe coffee from old fields bearing scanty, 1-3d barrel each - | 40 ditto. |
| 10. Hand picking best pulped coffee, each labourer 130 lbs.; of a quality inferior, 100 lbs.; unpulped coffee and heads, when very bad, 80 lbs. | — |
| 11. Falling, cross-cutting, and splitting staves, each pair of labourers 200 staves; hewing staves, each labourer 100 ditto; falling, cross-cutting, and splitting heading, each pair labourers 200 heading; hewing heading, each labourer 150 ditto; jointing staves, and raising tierces, each cooper 1 tierce. | — |

Pimento.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. Picking pimento clean of stem and stalk in heavy bearing or full crop (1 breaker being allowed to 4 pickers) per day - - - - - | 2 imperial bushels each. |
| 2. The same in light bearings, with similar hands, per day | 1½ ditto. |
| 3. Fanning and bagging pimento, bags being furnished, and each bag averaging 130 lbs., net produce per day | 8 bags each labourer. |

Ginger.

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1. Hoë ploughing an acre - - - - - | 24 apprentices per day. |
| 2. Drilling, preparing plants, and planting an acre - - - | 24 ditto. |
| 3. Cleaning an acre, according to state of land and weather | From 4 to 12 appren. p' day. |
| 4. Peeling when dug for them, each labourer, 30 lbs. per day; when they dig for themselves, each, 25 lbs. per day. | |

Logwood.

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| 1. Falling and chipping, when fine, 112 lbs. - - - - - | 7 apprentices per ton. |
| 2. Ditto - - - - - when otherwise - - - - - | 9 ditto. |

Fustic.

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1. Falling and chipping, when fine, per 112 lbs. - - - | 6 ditto. |
| 2. Ditto - - - - - when otherwise - - - - - | 8 ditto. |

JAMAICA.

Description of Work.

Number of Apprentices required to perform per Acre, or otherwise, said Work.

Pen-keeping.

- | | | |
|--|---------|--------------------------|
| 1. Digging holes and planting Guinea-grass, the plants being on the spot, 2 feet apart | - - - - | 15 apprentices per acre. |
| 2. Cleaning Guinea-grass pastures, when foul | - - | 6 ditto. |
| 3. Chopping Guinea-grass pastures, when rocky and foul | - - | 5 ditto. |
| 4. Chopping common pastures, when very foul | - - | 4 ditto. |

Corn.

- | | | |
|---|---------|-----------|
| 1. Digging holes and planting | - - - - | 4 ditto. |
| 2. Cleaning and moulding ditto | - - - - | 6 ditto. |
| 3. Underwooding and falling land for corn and grass | - | 15 ditto. |
| 4. Cleaning off for second crop of corn | - - - - | 10 ditto. |

Mason Work.

- | | | |
|---|---------|----------------|
| 1. Cutting and facing stones, each labourer | - - - - | 8 square feet. |
| Or to each labourer, 8 coins, 1 foot high, Spanish walling, materials being on spot, each | - - - - | 30 ditto. |

Sawyers' Work.

- | | | |
|---|---------|----------|
| 1. Sawing boards or plank already on the pit, each pair sawyers | - - - - | 60 feet. |
| 2. Sawing boards or plank, the sawyers pitting the timber | - - - - | 40 feet. |

Shingles.

- | | | |
|---|---------|--------------------|
| 1. Hewing shingles, viz., falling, cross-cutting, and splitting | - - - - | 200 each labourer. |
|---|---------|--------------------|

Stone Walls.

- | | | |
|---|---------|------------------------------|
| 1. Building dry stone walls, materials on the spot, dimensions 3 feet 6 inches at the base, 4 feet 6 inches high, and 14 inches at the top, per chain | - - - - | 4 builders and 2 fillers-in. |
|---|---------|------------------------------|

Ploughing.

- | | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| 1. Ploughing ordinary soil, with 10 steers and 6 apprentices, per day | - - - - | 1 acre. |
|---|---------|---------|

Fence Making.

- | | | |
|---|---------|-----------|
| 1. Lopping fences, per chain, 4 apprentices annually | - | 6 chains. |
| 2. Stake and rail filled-up fence, material found, 1 labourer | - - - - | 1 chain. |
| 3. Raising a penguin fence, with a single ditch, 4 feet 6 inches wide, 3 feet deep, 6 labourers | - - - - | 1 ditto. |
| 4. Planting the same penguins on the spot, 2 labourers | - | 1 ditto. |

Planting Provisions.

- | | | |
|---|---------|-----------|
| 1. Digging yam hills on level land, 1 foot deep, and 2 feet diameter, each labourer | - - - - | 70 hills. |
| 2. Planting cocoas and digging holes, 3 feet square, plants furnished, 7 labourers | - - - - | per acre. |
| 3. Planting plantain suckers, 8 feet square, plants furnished, 7 labourers | - - - - | ditto. |

Lancewood Spars.

- | | | |
|---|---|------------|
| 1. Cutting and carrying out a distance of half a mile | - | 8 per day. |
|---|---|------------|

Edward F. Coke, District No. 3.
 John. R. Macdonald, No. 1, Shaw Dist.
 B. M. Senior, Dist. No. 3.
 F. Stone, Dist. No. 3.
 John Maitland, Dist. No. 4.

J. E. Burlton, Dist. No. 4.
 Wm. Ridgaud, Dist. No. 1.
 J. Isaacs, Dist. No. 3.
 John Earle, Dist. No. 2.
 Thos. Mason, Dist. No. 2.

St. Elizabeth's, 30 January 1837.

James Miller, Chairman.

A SCALE of LABOUR for the Apprentices of the Parish of *St. Mary*, fixed on the 28th day of January 1837.

Description of Work.

Number of Hands required to perform the Work in a given Time, or at a certain Rate per Acre, Nine Hours.

1. Preparing land for cane-holes, by underwooding, falling, chopping, cleaning, heaping, and burning	70 hands per acre.
2. Hoeing off land, preparatory to digging cane-holes	If grass is high and bushy, 18 hands per acre; if the grass is short, and no bush, 12 hands per acre.
3. Digging cane-holes, 4 feet square, 7 inches deep -	70 holes per day for 1 hand.
4. Digging cane-holes in light, hilly land, 4 feet square, 7 inches deep -	80 holes per day for 1 hand.
5. Ploughing land into cane-holes, good cattle and drivers, with single and double mould plough, fit for planting, 1 man and 4 boys -	Half an acre per day.
6. Ploughing and moulding ratoons with double mould plough, trash being removed by an additional hand	1 acre per day.
7. Dropping dung in the cane-holes, it being put in heaps conveniently, and at the rate of 50 good loads per acre -	20 hands per acre.
8. Ditto, 30 loads per acre -	12 hands per acre.
9. Cleaning out ploughed land to holes 4 feet square	140 holes per day for 1 hand.
10. Planting canes and cleaning trenches, tops in the intervals -	20 hands per acre.
11. Planting corn -	1 hand per acre.
12. Cleaning plants first time, and a little supplying -	12 hands per acre.
13. Cleaning plants second time, and giving a little mould -	12 hands per acre.
14. Cleaning, giving bank, and booting -	14 hands per acre.
15. Trashing plants first time -	8 hands per acre.
16. Ditto, second time -	8 hands per acre.
17. Ditto, last time, and bedding, if the canes are lodged	14 hands per acre.
18. Turning trash early on ratoons, and supplying -	7 hands per acre.
19. Cleaning and moulding ratoons, the trash being turned some time before -	10 hands per acre.
20. Trashing ratoons, first time -	9 hands per acre.
21. Ditto, second time -	7 hands per acre.
22. Cutting plant-canes, including tyers -	10 hands per hogshead.
23. Ditto, first ratoons -	15 hands per hogshead.
24. Ditto, second ditto -	16 hands per hogshead.
25. A cart with 6 or 8 cattle, as may be required, 1 man and boy, with loaders to assist to bring the canes to the works, if the field is within half a mile -	12 carts per day.
26. Number of hands required about a water-mill to get liquor for a hogshead sugar in 9 hours -	11 hands.
27. And if a cattle-mill -	4 boys more to drive the cattle.
28. Number of hands required about a boiling-house to make a hogshead sugar in 9 hours -	8 hands.
29. Potting 2 hogshead sugar per day -	1 able hand.
30. Number of hands required in a still-house to make a puncheon rum per day, provide wood, &c. -	4 hands and 2 mules.
31. Carrying out manure half mile distance, with people to chop the dung and load the carts -	12 loads per day.
32. Cutting cord wood, 8 feet long, 4 feet broad, and 4 feet high -	1 hand per day.
33. Cutting and making mortice-posts, 3 mortices in each post -	1 hand, 10 posts per day.
34. Splitting hogshead heading, 2 hands together, wood fallen and cross cut -	Each hand, 100 pieces per day.
35. Felling trees and junking, with two hands splitting hogshead staves -	Each hand, 100 pieces per day.
36. Rough-hewing staves -	Each hand, 70 pieces per day.
37. Splitting shingles, if the wood is fallen -	Each hand, 200 per day.
38. Drawing shingles -	Each hand, 250 per day.
39. Sawing timbers -	If pitted, 50 feet for two sawyers.
40. Cutting down, cross-cutting, and squaring up scantling -	50 feet each hand per day.

JAMAICA.

Description of Work.	Number of Hands required to perform the Work in a given Time, or at a certain Rate per Acre, Nine Hours.
41. Coopers to make each - - - - -	1 hogshead per day, or 5 in 40½ hours.
42. Ditto - - - - -	3 tierces in 2 days.
43. Ditto - - - - -	3 rum-puncheons in 40½ hours.
44. Ditto - - - - -	4 rum-hogsheads in 40½ hours.
45. Coopers cut out and head up each per day - -	10 hogsheads, with white pine boards, 8 ditto with country heading.
46. Cleaning common pasture of years' standing -	6 hands per acre.
47. Cleaning Guinea-grass, taking out all weeds and sour grass - - - - -	6 hands per acre.
48. Cutting grass - - - - -	1 hand to cut a grass cart, or 12 mule-loads per day.
49. Picking tops to plant - - - - -	Each hand, 1 cart-load, or 12 mule-loads per day.
50. Logwood cutting and chipping, if large size, per ton	8 tradesmen, or 10 field hands per day.
51. Cutting and chipping fustic, per ton - - - -	6 hands per ton.
52. Digging yam-holes and good hills, 2 feet square -	60 hills for each hand per day.
53. Carrying produce to barquadier - - - - -	Cattle to travel at the rate of 2½ to 3 miles per hour, rest an hour at the Bay, wash them in the sea, and return at the same rate.
54. Breaking stones to MacAdamize roads, or for lime-kilns - - - - -	4 barrels each hand per day.
55. Building stone walls, materials put on the spot, 4½ feet high, 4½ feet at the base, 18 inches top -	4 able hands and 3 fillers, 1 chain per day.
56. Picking pimento - - - - -	4 pickers and 1 breaker to give 2 barrels per day, if in good bearing.
57. Digging trenches 2 feet wide, 12 inches deep, and lined off - - - - -	120 feet each hand per day.

Henry Cox.

Robt. Fairweather.

Chas. Stewart.

Abraham Hodgson, Custos.

— No. 28. —

(No. 145.)

No. 28

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B.

Sir,

Downing-street, 15 Sept. 1837.

I HAVE received your Despatch of the 28th July last (No. 149), transmitting printed copies of scales of labour for the apprentices in 18 of the parishes in Jamaica.

It would be impossible for me, without more information than I at present possess, to form any decided opinion of my own as to the details of the various regulations which you have established for determining the amount of labour to be required from the apprentices. Yet relying on your experience, and on the anxious desire which you have evinced, both in Barbados and in Jamaica, to promote every measure tending to advance the interests of all classes within your government, combined with a watchful regard to the rights of the apprentices, I have no reason to doubt that the scales of labour have been judiciously framed. I am confirmed in this opinion by the satisfactory result of the experiment in one of the most important districts of the island; and I am happy in having such good grounds for anticipating that the system, when brought into general operation, will be found to give mutual satisfaction to the apprentices and their employers.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

— No. 29. —

JAMAICA.

(No. 206.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B., to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 29.

My Lord,

Spanish Town, 7 Nov. 1837.

WITH reference to my Despatch (No. 149) of the 28th July last, I have now the honour to transmit herewith the scales of labour prepared for the remaining parishes.

Portland.

St. George's.

Wherever the system has been fairly tried, the best results have arisen from it, the planters and apprentices being equally well pleased; but as there are still many disputes about the eight and nine hour system going on, it is not yet in my power to report fully to your Lordship on its general working.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Lionel Smith*.

REPORT of the COMMITTEE appointed by the Planters and others interested in the Agricultural Productions of the Parish of PORTLAND, for the purpose of establishing a Scale of Labour upon the principle of Task-Work, and applicable to the Apprentices, upon the Eight Hours' system.

	PLANTERS' EVIDENCE.				CONSTABLES' EVIDENCE.			
	Sandy Soil.	Alluvial Soil.	Black Mould or Clay	Rocky Soil.	Sandy Soil.	Alluvial Soil.	Black Mould or Clay.	Rocky Soil.
<i>Sugar Culture.</i>								
Digging cane-holes, each labourer per diem - - -	85	90	70	62	74	80	70	80
Ditto cross-holes, ditto - - - - -	—	134	120	90	134			
Dropping dung, one basket to each hole, of 4 feet per acre; number of labourers per diem - - - -	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Planting canes, tops in intervals per acre, ditto - -	15	15	15	15	23	23	23	23
Ditto, tops in holes, ditto - - - - -	11	11	12	12				
First cleaning of plants, by 2d and 3d gangs, ditto - -	14	14	17	17	12	12	12	12
Second ditto, and banking, ditto - - - - -	16	16	18	18	16	16	16	17
Third ditto, and remaining bank, 1st gang, per acre, ditto	11	11	13	13	11	11	13	13
Hoeing off grass or weeds, per acre, ditto - - -	9	5	7	11	12	12	12	12
First trashing, ditto - - - - -	11	11	11	11	11	11	13	13
Second ditto, ditto - - - - -	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Third ditto, and lodged, ditto - - - - -	16	16	16	16	14	14	14	14
Relieving stools from trash, 1st ratoons per acre, ditto -	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5
Turning trash, ditto - - - - -	9	9	9	9	10	10	10	10
Cleaning and moulding 1st ratoons, ditto - - -	13	13	13	13	11	11	11	11
Trashing 1st ratoons, ditto - - - - -	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Cutting and tying canes, 1st gang, per hogshead, ditto -	14	14	14	18	15	15	16	16
Ditto, 2d ditto, ditto, ditto - - - - -	15	15	15	20				
Trenching land, 2 feet wide, 12 inches deep, 4 feet in length (each labourer); number of holes per diem - - -	35	35	30	30				
Close ploughing, with 6 to 8 cattle, 2 men and boys, from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of an acre per diem.								
Ploughing cane-holes with the single-breasted plough, with 6 to 8 cattle, 2 men, and 2 boys, $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of an acre per diem.								
Stocking up, preparatory to digging, per acre; number of labourers per diem - - - - -	7	7	7	7	13	13	13	13
Cutting down high bush, and hoeing off per acre, ditto -	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17
Hoeing off pasture land for cane-holes, 1st gang, ditto -	18	18	18	18				
<i>Manufacture.</i>								
To make a hogshead of sugar of 16 cwt., in a day of 8 hours, with a cattle mill, having 3 spells of stock of 12 each:								
Three boilermen, one stokerman, two dry trash carriers, (2d gang people), two mill feeders, two cane carriers, five cattle drivers, one boatswain, two green trash carriers; total 18.								
The same number of labourers, with a water mill, will make 24 cwt. of sugar in a day of 8 hours.								
<i>Cultivation of Guinea Grass.</i>								
Hoeing off an acre of common pasture, or ruinate, digging grass holes, and planting the same in guinea grass plants on the piece; number of labourers, per day - - -	40	40	50	50				
Cleaning plants, per acre, ditto - - - - -	14	14	17	17				
Cutting 12 cwt. of grass - - - - -	1	1	1	1				

JAMAICA.

Cultivation of Pimento.

- Billing pimento walk, in which the shade of trees prevents the rapid growth of underwood, per acre ; number of labourers, per diem, 4.
 Ditto common pasture, annually ; ditto, 8.
 Gathering the pimento, and cleaning the berries from the stems, per barrel ; ditto, 2.
 Winnowing 500 lbs. ; ditto, 1.
 Bagging 12 bags ; ditto, 1.

Arrow-root Culture.

- Preparing an acre of pasture land for arrow-root ; number of labourers, per diem, 20.
 Ditto of wood land, ditto ; ditto, 30.
 Digging holes, or making drills for planting arrow-root, per acre ; ditto, 20.
 Planting same when the plants are on the spot ; ditto, 6.
 First weeding ; ditto, 20.
 Second ditto ; ditto, 40.
 Third ditto ; ditto, 15.

Manufacture.

- Digging one barrel of arrow-root ; number of labourers, per diem, 1.
 Peeling and washing, preparatory to grinding, per barrel ; ditto, 1.
 Grinding eight barrels, including feeder, washers of flour, &c., with a hand mill ; ditto, 5.
 Ditto 12 barrels, with a water mill ; ditto, 4.
 Carrying down produce to barquadier, in the absence of stock, from 50 to 70 lbs. ; ditto, 1.

Cultivation of Ginger.

- Repairing an acre of ruinate land ; number of labourers, per day, 34.
 Digging trenches between 10 and 12 inches apart, 2 inches deep, per acre ; ditto, 27.
 Planting an acre (children and weakly people), ditto ; ditto, 14.
 First cleaning, able people ; ditto, 9.
 Second ditto, ditto ; ditto, 14.
 Third ditto, ditto ; ditto, 10.

Manufacture.

- Digging, washing and scraping 54 lbs., yielding 36 lbs. when scraped (54 lbs. ratoons yield 30 lbs. when scraped) ; number of labourers, per day, 1.

Coopers' Work.

- One good tradesman to make $3\frac{1}{2}$ puncheons per week.
 Ditto - - - $4\frac{1}{2}$ hogsheads.

Wood Cutting, &c.

- Cutting and cording hard wood for fuel ; number of labourers, per day, 2 per cord.
 Cutting down trees, splitting and hewing 1,200 staves and heading ; ditto, 16.
 Ditto - - - ditto - - - 1,000, 22 inch cedar or other shingles ; ditto, 10.
 Falling, pitting, and sawing 50 feet hard wood, 60 feet cedar, 50 feet Santa Maria or pruen ; ditto, 1 pair.
 Cutting down, cross cutting, and squaring 50 feet scantling for framing ; ditto, 1.
 To break two barrels of hard river stone ; number of labourers, per day, 1.
 Ditto three, limestone ; ditto, 1.

Cultivation of Provisions.

- Clearing new land, digging holes for, and planting an acre of cocoes and plantains, plants on the spot ; number of labourers, per day, 40.
 Cleaning same per acre ; ditto, 9.
 Digging 75 yam hills, 4 feet square ; ditto, 1.

Port Antonio, 26 Nov. 1836.

(signed) W. Williams, Chairman.

SCALE of LABOUR for a Sugar Estate, in the Parish of *St. George*, for able Apprentices in a Day of Eight Hours.

JAMAICA.

	Alluvial and Sandy.	Black Mould on or mixed with Clay.	Stoney, or stiff Clay.
	<i>Per Diem.</i>	<i>Per Diem.</i>	<i>Per Diem.</i>
Cane-holes : holes to be 4 feet wide, 8 inches deep - -	80 for each app.	75 for each app.	50 for each app.
Cross ditto - - - -	180 ditto - -	150 ditto - -	100 ditto.
Planting 12 apprentices to the acre - - - -	12 to the acre -	14 to the acre -	16 to the acre.
First weeding - - - -	10 ditto - -	12 ditto - -	16 ditto.
Second ditto - - - -	10 ditto - -	12 ditto - -	16 ditto.
Giving full banks - - -	12 ditto - -	14 ditto - -	16 ditto.
Trashing, 1st - - - -	8 ditto - -	8 ditto - -	8 ditto.
Ditto - 2d - - - -	8 ditto - -	8 ditto - -	8 ditto.
Ditto, if lodged - - -	16 ditto - -	16 ditto - -	16 ditto.
Cutting and tying good plants -	12 to the hogshd	12 to the hogshd	15 to the hogshd.
Ditto - - indifferent -	15 ditto - -	15 ditto - -	20 ditto.
Turning trash, early - -	5 to the acre -	5 to the acre -	5 to the acre.
Ditto - - late - - -	8 ditto - -	8 ditto - -	12 ditto.
Ditto - - and moulding -	12 ditto - -	15 ditto - -	18 ditto.
Dropping manure, a basket to each hole.— <i>N.B.</i> The manure being laid at a convenient distance - - - -	12 ditto - -	12 ditto - -	12 ditto.
Picking up tops (plants) -	6 ditto - -	6 ditto - -	8 ditto.

Whenever the above work is done by the second gang, a quarter additional to be allowed; and when by the third or children gang, to be nearly doubled.

- Close ploughing, three-quarters of an acre per day.
- Ploughing cane-holes, one half acre per day.
- Moulding ratoons, with a single mould board plough, 1 acre per day.

To make two hogsheads of good sugar, of 40 inches truss hoops, the following labour will be required; viz.:

- 3 cane carriers, men - -

4 green trash carriers, women

1 feeder to a horizontal mill -

2 ditto to a vertical ditto -

3 boilermen, 1 stokerman -

3 women to carry dry trash -

For a day of 12 hours. The extra 4 hours to be paid in money, or one-third of the labour deducted.

A wain with 6 cattle, 2 drivers, and 2 loaders, to bring in a load of canes every three quarters of an hour within half a mile, supposing the road to be good.

The same to apply in carrying out manure, but to have three loaders.

Mules in carrying canes or tops, 1 boy or 2 mules, to make a turn in every half hour, in the distance above stated.

Two stillermen, 1 woodcutter, 1 muleman, with 2 mules, to make a puncheon of rum in a day, with a retort.

- Staves, falling, junking, splitting, and hewing, 100 to each man.
- Heading - ditto - ditto - ditto - 150 ditto.
- Shingles - ditto - ditto, hewing and dressing, 120 to each man.
- Falling, pitting, and sawing hardwood, 50 feet to a pair of sawyers.
- Ditto - ditto, cedar, 60 ditto - - ditto.
- Cutting down, crosscutting, and squaring scantling, 50 feet to each man.
- Running stone walls, 6 masons to the chain, say 66 feet, or 11 feet to each man.

N.B.—Stones on the spot, walls of 4 ½ feet high, with good base, and capped with large stones.

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Mortice posts, of sweetwood, with 3 holes, 12 a day }
 Ditto - - ripe macaw - ditto - 5 ditto } To each man.
 Ditto - - soft wood - ditto - 15 ditto }

Cooperage, a hogshead a day of any staves, for each cooper.

Ditto - 3 phns. a week - - ditto - - ditto.

A cooper to cut out and head up 10 hogsheads, if with boards; and 6 hogsheads, if with country heading.

Wains carrying down produce, to travel at the rate of 2 miles an hour.

Peter Gibson.

Adam Gray.

Wm. Hosack.

M. F. G. Lemasney.

Roger Swire.

George Hall.

W. Robertson.

David Laton.

Robert Sproull.

Hy. Mason.

Geo. B. Vidal.

A. J. Schouborg.

A SCALE of WORK adapted for Coffee Plantations, in the Parish of *St. George*, drawn up by practical and experienced Planters, to be performed by effective Apprenticed Labourers, in a Day of Eight Hours.

Description of Work.

Quantity to be Performed.

1. Falling an acre of wood-land for coffee: From 25 to 30 apprentices to an acre of heavy wood-land; 20 to 30 to an acre of land of a middling description.
2. Burning and cleaning off, fit to line: Twenty-five apprentices to an acre.
3. Lining the ground when cleared off: Ten apprentices to 5 acres in land with a gentle declivity; from $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ more on steep land.
4. Digging holes and planting coffee: One labourer to plant 100 trees.
5. Cleaning the field after the coffee is 3 months planted, and every subsequent cleaning when the grass is not heavy: Eight apprentices to an acre, equal to 112 trees at 7 feet square, or 150 at 6 feet square, and so on in proportion.
6. Cleaning old coffee fields when foul after crop: Ten apprentices to an acre.
7. Picking coffee in a desultory manner at the commencement of crop "in negro phraseology one acre": Half a bushel for each labourer.
8. Picking full-bearing coffee: From 2 bushels to $2\frac{1}{2}$ for each apprentice, the bushel containing 36 quarts, carrying it to the mill-house.
9. Pulping coffee: Three apprentices will supply the mill and pulp from 30 to 40 bushels per hour, with machinery driven by water.
10. Hand-picking good coffee for market: Each apprentice will pick 2 bushels per day.
11. Hand-picking middling coffee: One and a half bushel to each apprentice.
12. Ditto - - Triage coffee: One bushel.
13. Carrying coffee to market or barquadier: One boy to 2 mules, each mule carrying from 160 to 200 lbs., travelling at the rate of 3 miles per hour, resting 1 hour at the landing-place, and returning at the rate of 4 miles per hour.
14. Pruning coffee: Opening and cleaning the trees, and pruning light, will take 1 labourer to 40 or 50 trees; 1 apprentice will take off shoots and suckers from 100 to 150 trees after pruning.
15. Manuring an acre of coffee, the manure being laid or carried out to the fields: Twenty to 25 apprentices will open round the roots, and apply manure to an acre.

Sawing:

Cedar—Fifty feet per day, including falling and pitting.

Mahoe—Forty five.

Bullytree—Ditto.

Splitting Shingles:

Four hands to 800 shingles, 2 sawing the blocks, and 2 splitting.

R. Baugh.

James Baugh.

Alex. Campbell.

A. J. Schouborg.

Robt. Murray.

Peter Gibson.

Adam Gray.

James Maxwell.

George Hall.

John M'Craw.

— No. 30. —

(No. 211.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K. C. B., to
Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 30.

My Lord,

Spanish Town, 13 November 1837.

As regards the general working of the apprenticeship, we are at present considerably disturbed in some districts by certain obstinate planters and managers, who will not give up the eight-hours' system of labour, and the struggle I have long maintained has now, in some parishes, broken out in open opposition by planters, and in some instances to open resistance by the apprentices.

Your Lordship will have in recollection the occurrences in St. Thomas in the Vale immediately after my taking charge of this government. They were all to be traced, in origin, to the eight-hours' system, added to a great deal of intemperate zeal and partial justice on the part of the special magistrate.

That passed, and St. Thomas in the Vale is now the most industrious parish in the island, having generally adopted the nine-hours' system and the voluntary scale of labour laid down for the mutual interests of planters and labourers.

On general reasoning, it would be presumed that the effects displayed by the opposite system, that of eight hours, would cause it to be universally abandoned; but I was too sanguine in this conclusion.

Changes of magistrates, which I lately arranged, where I had the least suspicion of the mal-administration of the Abolition Law, the spread of information, and consequent comparison of treatment by the apprentices themselves, brought to light more extensive evils of the eight-hours' system—cruel in its operation, the labourer has nothing to satisfy him that he is not imposed upon in his time, for he has nothing to mark it; whereas the nine-hours' system, prescribed from sunrise to sunset, would, through most seasons of the year, exclude imposition. It also gives half Friday, or every alternate whole Friday, for cultivating their grounds; but the eight-hours' system gives but one hour a day. Thus, after a man has devoted all his strength in labour for his master, he goes, exhausted in frame and spirits, to his own work, and very often at such a distance that night closes on him before he can commence it. In one instance, a whole gang, complaining of being over-worked under the eight-hours' system, were directed to prove it; and the answer was, they were kept out till they "counted the stars."

Your Lordship, therefore, will not be surprised at the earnestness with which I am endeavouring to extinguish this unjust system.

In its consequences, the evil spread into the Manchioneal district, where the opposition to my endeavours to put it down had been violently and rudely opposed by Mr. Panton, Her Majesty's Advocate-general, who has instituted a prosecution against Mr. Special Justice Chamberlaine, and who in the House of Assembly has endeavoured to get up a party against my government, but hitherto without success.

The same spirit then got up in St. George's; and I have the honour to annex a copy of the resolutions come to by a general meeting in that parish; and Manchester has also appointed a general meeting for the purpose of maintaining the same system.

Lord Sligo, who fought stoutly for the Act in Aid, the fifth clause of which clearly defines the nine-hours' system, then unfortunately issued a proclamation making it optional; hence all the mischief.

My course has been, under the advice of the Attorney-general, to direct all the special magistrates on no account to disturb the eight-hour or any other system, where the apprentices and masters were working by mutual agreement; for in crop season, particularly in coffee districts, the eight-hours' system, giving more continuous labour, is desirable, and has never been resisted by the labourers, where compensated for in food or wages; but where the apprentices complained against the eight-hours' system, the magistrates were ordered to demand the latest law, that of nine hours, and if resisted, the managers were to be informed they had my orders not to adjudicate complaints of labour by any

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other rule. The consequence has been, in some instances, the apprentices have demanded and taken the half Friday, and I have not allowed them to be punished for so doing.

I feel all the awkwardness and impolicy of demonstrating to these people a practical principle of the exercise of their own power, but I had no alternative against the obstinacy of their superiors; and I feel quite confident I shall ultimately succeed in establishing one uniform system.

Your Lordship will probably see in the papers that we are in a state of open rebellion, and other insane accusations, usual to men fretting under the loss of absolute power, and I have therefore taken some pains with this faithful relation of facts; and the subject is also again brought under the consideration of the legislature.

I know of no country, except Jamaica, where it has ever been attempted to carry on agriculture by two opposite systems, as regards the interests of labourers. It can only be maintained by the abuse of power, or a total disregard of all the stimulants to exertion and industry.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Lionel Smith.*

Enclosure in No. 30.

Court-house, Buff Bay, 13 October 1837.

Enclosure in
No. 30.

At the court-house, at Buff Bay, on the 26th of September last, the following protest was entered into:

We, the undersigned proprietors and managers of estates in the parish of St. George, having adopted the eight-hours' system, according to the recommendation of Lord Sligo, the late governor, who in his circular to the late custos of this parish, dated 25th August 1835, states, "The right of the master to apportion the forty and a half hours' work (to which he is entitled) in the five first days of the week does not admit of doubt," and was pointed out to the negroes, in his Excellency's address of the 1st of August 1834, do protest against any interference on the part of any special justice, for the purpose of altering the eight-hours' system, which we find best suited to this parish, as nearly half the crops are usually made after August.

(signed)	<i>J. R. Grossett.</i>	<i>John Fargie.</i>
	<i>H. W. Hadden.</i>	<i>Roger Swire.</i>
	<i>William Hosack.</i>	<i>Robert Baugh.</i>
	<i>W. F. G. Lemasney.</i>	<i>James Maxwell.</i>
	<i>William Robertson.</i>	<i>George Helps.</i>
	<i>Adam Gray.</i>	<i>Alexander Campbell.</i>

St. George's, 16 September 1837.

And at a meeting held this day at the Court-house, Buff Bay, the following resolutions were agreed on:

Resolved, 1,—That the eight-hour system having been strongly recommended in the first instance by Lord Sligo, and by the magistrates of this parish, it was adopted, as best suited to the cultivation, as nearly half the crops are usually made after August, and therefore ought to be continued to the end of the apprenticeship.

Resolved, 2,—This meeting views with deep regret the illegal attempt of Special-justice Hewitt to enforce the nine-hours' system at Spring Garden estate, as a dangerous example to other properties, where the eight-hours' system has been long established.

Resolved, 3,—That the Abolition Law clearly gives the proprietor or manager the right to grant the four and a half hours per week to the apprentices, either daily or during the year, as best suits the estate; consequently it is the determination of the planters of St. George's to maintain their right.

Resolved, 4,—That the above protest and resolutions be published for one week in the *Despatch* and *Kingston Chronicle*.

— No. 31. —

(No. 198.)

No. 31.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B.

Sir,

Downing-street, 29 December 1837.

I HAVE received your Despatch, No. 211, of the 13th November, from which I regret to learn that some districts in Jamaica were at that time considerably disturbed, owing to the opposition of some planters and managers to your endeavours

yours

vours to supersede the eight-hours' system, which experience has proved to be open to very serious objections, and to be productive of great dissatisfaction among the apprentices. The course which you have adopted with respect to this subject appears to me to have been dictated by a just view of what was conducive to the real interests, not of one class only, but of the employers as well as the apprentices; and I deeply regret that your enlightened and benevolent efforts should have been so unreasonably opposed by any portion of that class to whom Her Majesty's Government have a right to look for co-operation in the equitable administration of the apprenticeship system. I can conceive nothing more calculated to bring discredit on the whole body than such conduct on the part of any considerable portion of it. It is an imperative duty on the part of the executive government to use every legislative method to prevent the injurious consequences which must result, both to the owners of estates and the apprentices, from a perseverance in such conduct. I have already intimated to you in a former despatch, that Her Majesty's Government would not hold themselves bound to enforce the labour of the apprentices for the benefit of the employers by punishments open to objections which the legislature had the power but declined to remove. Your refusal to allow of the infliction of any punishment on apprentices who, under the circumstances stated in your despatch, have demanded and taken the half Friday, appears to me to be conceived in the same spirit and founded on the same principle. I agree with you as to the inconvenience of demonstrating to the apprenticed population a practical principle of the exercise of their own power; but I must disclaim, on behalf of the Government, all responsibility for this evil, as the course which it is their duty to adopt has been forced on them by the conduct of other parties, and any other course would expose the Government to the just reproach of acquiescing in a violation, on the part of the planters, of the spirit of the Act for the Abolition of Slavery. I have at the same time full confidence in the discretion which you will exercise, with reference to this subject, in combining, with a firm vindication of the rights of the apprentices, and a steady opposition to vexatious and oppressive conduct, every proper precaution for the maintenance of the public tranquillity. It affords me much satisfaction to know that, notwithstanding the unfavourable circumstances you have related, you entertain sanguine hopes of ultimate success in the establishment of a uniform system of labour. In the prosecution of this object, you have a right to demand the zealous and cordial co-operation of every gentleman holding office under the Crown. The conduct which you impute to Mr. Panton, Her Majesty's Advocate-general, is wholly at variance with this principle; you describe him as a violent opponent, in a particular district of the island, of your endeavours to put an end to a system which, in entire concurrence with the views of Her Majesty's Government, you consider injurious to the welfare of a large class of the community. Assuming that no doubt exists as to the line which Mr. Panton has taken on this occasion, I cannot hesitate to express my opinion, that he ought no longer to hold the office of which he is at present in possession. I am aware that it is not one to which any salary is attached, and that the casual emoluments of it are at present inconsiderable. It is, however, important that no misconception should exist as to Her Majesty's determination to show her displeasure at the conduct of any person who, holding a commission from the Crown, opposes himself to that policy with respect to the Negro population which has been strictly enjoined on the representatives of the Crown in the West Indian colonies, and in the maintenance of which the character of this country is deeply involved. You will therefore consider yourself fully authorized to remove Mr. Panton from his office, not as a punishment for the course which he has adopted, but as a proof that the whole influence of the Crown and of the Government will be resolutely exerted in supporting those principles of which, in the present instance, he has been an open avowed opponent.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg.*

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V A L U A T I O N S.

— No. 32. —

(No. 154.)

No. 32.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K. C. B., to
Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 1.

25 July 1837.
Fishbourne to Hill.

My Lord,

King's House, 3 August 1837.

I HAVE the honour to enclose a letter from Mr. Special Justice Fishbourne, representing a very extreme and cruel case of valuation on the services of an apprentice, named Mary Williams.

No. 2.

18 July 1837.
Valuation.

In its consequences it amounts to a prohibition, and therefore defeats the intention of the abolition law.

No. 3.

Copy Circular to
Magistrates, No.
1197; date 3 Aug.
1837.

I have no remedy in my power, but have directed instructions to be given that no board of valuation shall sit in future, in which the members are not previously agreed to admit of the usual deduction of one-third for contingencies, which will at all events save the magistrates' time.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Lionel Smith*.

Enclosures in No. 32.

(No. 1.)

Enclosures in
No. 32.

Sir,

Dover House, St. George's, 25 July 1837.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting a copy of the proceedings which took place at Buff Court-house, relative to the valuation of Mary Williams, an apprentice to Woodstock estate, in my district. I beg you will be good enough to lay the matter before his Excellency the Governor, that I may be instructed how to act.

The woman is very desirous of purchasing the remaining term of her apprenticeship, but she is virtually prevented from doing so, and the object contemplated by the Abolition Act defeated, in consequence of the very high sum set upon her by the magistrate who acted on the part of the proprietor.

I have, &c.

(signed) *E. E. Fishbourne*,
Special Justice.

Richard Hill, Esq., Spanish Town.

(No. 2.)

Buff Bay, Court-house, 18 July 1837.

James Maxwell, M. D., Mr. F. G. Lemasney, and Edward E. Fishbourne, Assisting Justices.

Mary Williams, a prædial apprenticed labourer, attached to Woodstock estate, St. George's; from 25 to 30 years of age; character tolerably good; has had four children, two now living; health tolerable; eldest child is about five years old.

William Hosack, proprietor, makes the following statement on oath.

Woodstock estate's great gang consists of	-	90	able people.
second	- ditto -	-	47
third	- ditto -	-	27

164 or say 140 averageable people.

Average number of hogsheads for 1835 and 1836 is 280 hogsheads.

If 140 people : 280 :: 1 : 2—or 2 hogsheads each per annum.

2 hogsheads of sugar, at 50 <i>l.</i> per hogshead, is equal to	-	-	£. 100	-	-
3 years at the same rate	-	-	-	-	3
			£. 300	-	-

The net value of an able apprentice on Woodstock estate for three years is 300*l*.

The rum crop is purposely excluded, as, heretofore, it has paid all the expenses of the estate; the sugar, therefore, has been all clear gain.

Valuation.

Mr. F. G. Lemasney, on the part of the owner, at £. 80 - - net.

James Maxwell, associating justice, at - - 50 - - 25*l*. per annum, with de-

Edward E. Fishbourne, special justice, at - - 50 - - deduction of one-third.

The valuation could not be completed.

(signed) *E. E. Fishbourne*, Special Justice.

(No. 3.)

Circular, No. 1197.

Sir,

The King's House, 2 August 1837.

IN all magistrates' courts of valuation on apprentices in future, the special magistrate, before commencing proceedings, is directed to ascertain from the general magistrates associated with him whether they are agreed to allow a deduction upon the extreme value of any such apprentices of one-third for contingencies, which has been the principle formerly adopted, but lately generally denied.

If the associated magistrates will not agree to this just deduction, the court need not proceed, but the special magistrate will at once report the valuation as inconclusive, and then give notice to have other magistrates selected who will agree to the usual deduction for contingencies.

I have, &c.

Special Justice.

(signed) *T. R. Warren*, Sec.

—No. 33.—

(No. 176.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B.

No. 33.

Sir,

Downing-street, 31 October 1837.

I HAVE received your despatch, No. 154, of the 3d August, enclosing a letter from Mr. Special Justice Fishbourne, relative to the valuation of an apprentice, named Mary Williams. The amount of the sum fixed by Mr. Lemasney, and its excess above the valuation, not only of the special magistrate but of the associated justice, is so great as to raise a strong presumption against the equity of the assessment; and as I concur with you in the opinion that the consequences of valuations conducted on such a principle would be a prohibition on one of the most important privileges intended to be conferred on the Negroes during the period of apprenticeship, it is clear that no means within the power of the executive government ought to be left untried in order to prevent the recurrence of cases of this description. The instructions contained in your circular of the 2d August appear calculated to obviate the evil to a certain extent, although it might still happen, by a continued refusal of any of the magistrates composing successive courts of valuation to assent to the required deduction, that the valuation itself might be postponed for a long period, if not indefinitely, and a serious wrong thereby inflicted on the apprentice desirous of purchasing the remaining portion of his apprenticeship. The most efficient remedy appears to me to be that which was contemplated in my despatch, No. 72, of the 17th August 1835, to the Marquis of Sligo, with reference to this subject. In the event, therefore, of a systematic refusal to assent to a fair and equitable principle of assessment, I am of opinion that you will be fully justified in considering the magistrate who thus opposes an obstacle to the fair working of the abolition law as disqualified from the exercise of so important a trust, and I know of no more cogent ground for removing any gentleman from the commission of the peace than a deliberate and systematic adherence to a practice which involves

Vide Papers relative to the Abolition of Slavery, 1836, Part 3, (1) p. 28.

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a sacrifice of the rights of a class of persons who have an especial claim on the protection of the government. I had hoped that some alteration in the law with respect to valuations might have been made by the legislature of Jamaica, in accordance with the recommendations of the Committee of the House of Commons in 1836 on Negro Apprenticeship. This, however, not having yet been done, it is the more incumbent on the executive government to secure the administration of that law in the hands of gentlemen who have an equal respect for the rights of the apprentices as for those of their employers. I should be glad to be informed whether the valuation of the apprentice, Mary Williams, has yet been completed, and on what terms, or whether she still continues in apprenticeship.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg.*

— No. 34. —

(No. 5.)

No. 34.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K. C. B., to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Spanish Town, 8th January 1838.

Copy, Mullet Hall,
St. George's.

20 December 1837.

IN reference to your Lordship's Despatch, No. 176, of the 31st October last, I have the honour to transmit herewith the copy of a letter from Mr. Special Justice Fishbourne, explaining the present circumstances and state of Mary Williams, an apprentice, whose valuation was not completed.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Lionel Smith.*

Enclosure in No. 34.

Sir,

Mullet Hall, St. George's, 20th December 1837.

Enclosure in
No. 34.

IN reply to your letter, No. 1430, dated 13th instant, calling upon me to report whether the valuation of Mary Williams, of Woodstock estate, has yet been concluded on a fair and equitable consideration of the apprentice's service, I have the honour to state that no steps have been taken in the matter since I forwarded my report.

About two weeks after the unconcluded valuation, Mary Williams applied to me for advice. I recommended her to wait patiently until I should receive a reply to my communication. Since that period she never spoke to me on the subject, although I frequently met her on my visits to Woodstock estate.

I have been informed by Mr. Hosack, her owner, that a bookkeeper with whom Mary Williams cohabited, and who it is supposed intended to advance her the necessary money to purchase her discharge, has left the estate some time since, and he believes she is not now able, even if desirous of purchasing her release.

Had the valuation been concluded upon fair and reasonable terms in July last, this woman would, in all probability, be now in possession of unrestricted freedom, which, unfortunately, from altered circumstances, she is not now likely to obtain.

I have, &c.

(signed) *E. E. Fishbourne*, Special Justice.

Richard Hill, Esq., Assistant Secretary,
The King's House.

— No. 35. —

(No. 227.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B., to
Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 35.

My Lord,

Spanish Town, 11 December 1837.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith an abstract, with corresponding
returns, of all valuations of apprentices, concluded and not concluded, from the
1st of November 1836 to the 31st day of July last inclusive.

Abstract,
56 Returns.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Lionel Smith*.

(Enclosure in No. 35.)

ABSTRACT of the Return of VALUATIONS, Concluded and Unconcluded, by the Special Magistrates, from the 1st of
November 1836 to the 31st day of July 1837 inclusive.

NAME.	PARISH.	Number of Concluded Valuations.	SUM PAID.	Number of Unconcluded Valuations.	SUM UNPAID.
			£. s. d.		£. s. d.
Alley, William H.	Manchester	-	dead.		
Armstrong, Richard	Vere	4	99 10 1	7	620 1 -
Bedford, St. John	St. David's	8	233 13 4	6	303 13 4
Baines, Thomas	St. Thomas-in-the-East	15	364 16 7	5	190 16 8
Baynes, E. Dacres	St. John's	5	284 10 -	4	257 16 8
Bell, W. A.	St. Elizabeth's	44	1,464 6 8	14	477 5 -
Bourne, Stephen	St. Andrew	13	453 - 2	7	265 18 8
Brownson, W. H.	Ditto	-	dismissed.		
Carnaby, William	St. James	15	262 16 4	3	133 11 2
Chamberlaine, Richard, jun.	St. Thomas-in-the-East	23	614 16 3	11	499 - 10
Cocking, Ralph	St. James	14	231 7 5 $\frac{1}{4}$		
Crockett, J. M.	Ditto	1	41 - -	6	327 - -
Cooper, R. S.	St. Thomas-in-the-Vale	7	270 12 5	5	145 15 -
Daly, Richard	St. Andrew	17	505 10 -	5	187 - -
Danson, Hugh	Manchester	6	242 1 8	5	186 1 -
Dawson, J. K.	Clarendon	28	759 1 9	8	457 9 8
Dillon, T. A.	St. Ann's	29	1,284 12 8	8	373 11 7
Daughtrey, John	St. Elizabeth's	24	983 17 -	4	213 - -
Ewart, David	St. Thomas-in-the-East	23	607 15 10	6	391 13 4
Fishbourne, E. E.	St. George	14	499 7 5	4	236 2 2
Finlayson, Walter	St. James	57	956 - 10	17	688 8 10
Facey, Richard S.	Ditto	20	573 13 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	29 3 4
Grant, J. W.	Manchester	15	431 13 11	14	815 - 10
Gurley, J.	St. Andrew's & Manchester	6	191 - -	3	129 3 4
Gregg, G. D.	Trelawny & St. Thomas-in-the-East.	9	358 7 6	8	429 5 10
Gordon, George	Clarendon	4	75 13 4		
Harris, James	St. Elizabeth	44	1,271 18 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	6	278 5 2
Hawkins, Charles	Trelawny	10	227 13 4	11	598 10 -
Hamilton, Cheney	Port Royal	14	454 13 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	10	379 10 5
Hewitt, William	St. George's and Portland	15	480 17 8	1	56 - -
Hill, Richard	St. Catherine	20	299 6 -	7	335 11 3
Hulme, J. R.	Hanover	5	109 15 -	2	79 - -
Higgins, G. O.	St. Catherine	2	59 - -	1	50 - -
Kelly, D. W.	Westmorland	10	298 8 8	10	584 13 4
Kent, Henry	Port Royal and St. David's	7	223 12 5	6	239 8 3
Lambert, R. S.	St. Mary's	10	541 19 4	8	275 6 8
Laidlaw, Henry	St. Ann's	38	1,267 12 6	25	957 14 11
Lyon, Edmund B.	St. Thomas-in-the-East & Trelawny.	29	716 10 7	7	293 - -
Marlton, W. F.	St. Mary	50	1,406 6 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	17	678 8 5
Macleod, A. N.	St. Dorothy	9	487 - -		
Matthews, Thomas	St. Elizabeth's	15	385 - 9	2	139 - -
Moresby, Henry	Kingston	60	974 2 9	11	254 16 6
Odell, John	St. James's, Hanover, and Westmorland.	2	74 11 3	2	165 13 2

(continued)

PAPERS RELATIVE TO THE ABOLITION OF

NAME.	PARISH.	Number of Concluded Valuations.	SUM PAID.	Number of Unconcluded Valuations.	SUM UNPAID.
			£. s. d.		£. s. d.
Oliver, T. M. - - - -	Westmorland - - -	2	67 10 -		
O'Reilly, Philip - - -	Clarendon - - - -	4	112 - -	1	15 - -
Philp, E. D. - - - -	Westmorland - - -	26	895 4 8	4	262 11 3
Pryce, Samuel * - - -	Trelawny - - - -	46	1,141 4 7	12	547 10 -
Ramsay, William - - -	St. Catherine - - -	12	236 8 4 ½	3	203 2 -
Rawlinson, Stanley - -	St. Ann's - - - -	14	473 10 1	14	651 11 8
Reynolds, John - - - -	St. Thomas-in-the-Vale -	19	684 4 9	2	37 13 4
Ricketts, S. R. - - - -	St. John's and St. Thomas- in-the-Vale.	5	245 - -	2	110 - -
St. John, Richard - - -	St. George's - - - -	nil -	- - -	2	35 - -
Thomas, Thomas - - - -	St. Thomas-in-the-Vale -	6	176 - -	5	280 - -
Thomas, J. R. - - - -	Trelawny - - - -	52	1,070 16 7	31	826 2 8
Waddington, H. - - - -	Portland - - - -	9	167 - -	2	122 - -
Walsh, H. - - - -	St. Mary - - - -	12	395 9 7	9	429 5 7
Welch, A. - - - -	St. Andrew's - - - -	9	417 16 2	13	772 17 4
Willis, G. - - - -	St. Thomas-in-the-East -	30	1,133 12 -		
Woolfrys, John - - - -	St. Ann's - - - -	33	1,197 2 3	27	1,303 1 3
		1,020	29,499 13 8 ½	405	18,115 11 4

* Hall Pringle ; no return as yet received.

This return does not include the valuations by Major Light, Captain Long, and Captain Alley, special justices, who had died before the foregoing papers were called for ; nor does it include the valuations and releases effected by Mr. Lloyd and Captain Brownson, magistrates, dismissed from their commissions in April last, and whose returns do not distinguish the paid and unpaid valuations.

S. R. Waville, Sec.
Richard Hill, Assistant Secretary
Special Justice Depart.

RETURN of VALUATIONS from the 1st of November 1836 to the 31st of July 1837 inclusive.

DATE of Valuation.	NAME of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class, and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of the Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if unconcluded.
				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
PARISH OF VERE :						
1837 :						
24 June -	Thomas Goulburn	male, non-prædial -	Beecham Cottage	19 15 -		
-	Ellen Waters	female, ditto -	ditto - -	19 15 -		
-	C. Johnston	female, prædial -	Harmony Hall -	41 2 1		
-	Wm. Morgan	male, prædial, far- rier, spayer and gelder.	Ashley Hall -	- - -	185 - -	-- this man is con- sidered a most va- luable apprentice, thoroughly under- standing all dis- eases incidental to cattle.
22 July -	T. Green	male, prædial, car- penter (half inch.)	Moreland -	- - -	89 - -	
-	E. Ellis	male, prædial, field	Dunkleys -	- - -	58 - -	
-	E. Clarke	male, non-prædial, servant.	Haswell Hill -	18 18 -		
-	G. Mills	male, prædial, field	Beecham Cottage	- - -	63 13 4	
29 -	Jos. Cooper	male, prædial, head constable, sawyer.	ditto - -	- - -	115 - -	
-	Anne Rickotts	female, prædial, field	ditto - -	- - -	53 6 8	
11 -	E. Brown	ditto - -	Bowens - -	- - -	56 1 -	
			£.	99 10 1	620 1 -	

Richard Armstrong, Special Justice.

DATE of Valuation.	NAME Of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class, and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of the Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if unconcluded.
PARISH OF ST. THOMAS-IN-THE-EAST, PORT-MORANT AND ROCKY POINT DISTRICT:						
1836:	From the 1st November 1836 to the 31st July 1837 inclusive.			£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
19 Nov. -	Sikee Douglas -	female, pr. ap. -	Retnal -	53 6 8		
—	Margaret Arnott -	female, non-pr. ap. -	Nutt's River -	30 6 8		
17 Dec. -	Fanny Perkins -	female, pr. ap. -	Stoaks-hall -	31 6 8		
—	Billy Antilony -	male, non-pr. ap. -	Mrs. Hoffman -	13 - -		
1837:						
14 January	Charlotte Dismore -	female, non-pr. ap. -	Montpelier -	20 - -		
—	Alex. Beckford -	male, pr. ap. -	ditto -	- - -	31 10 -	no cause stated.
21 January	Henryeta Coley -	female, non-pr. ap. -	Stoaks-hall -	12 10 -		
28 January	Fabia Black -	ditto -	Pera -	12 - -		
—	Anne Beckford -	female, pr. ap. -	Montpelier -	16 - -		
18 Feb. -	Eliza Shaw -	female, non-pr. ap. -	Bowden -	15 3 4		
—	Mary Bernard -	female, pr. ap. -	Montpelier -	34 3 4		
—	Mary Pinnock -	female, non-pr. ap. -	ditto -	8 - -		
1 April -	Mary Prince -	female, pr. ap. -	Stoaks-hall -	40 - -		
6 May -	Saran M'Court -	female, non-pr. ap. -	Lyssons -	15 - -		
19 May -	Catherine Gordon -	female, pr. ap. -	Montpelier -	42 - -		
—	Emily Scott -	ditto -	ditto -	- - -	17 13 4	no cause stated.
—	Catherine Real -	ditto -	ditto -	- - -	17 13 4	ditto.
8 July -	Fanny M'Coarty -	ditto -	Lyssons -	- - -	24 - -	-- promised to bring the amount; has not done so; called with it yesterday (17th Sept.), but I was from home.
15 July -	Sarah Patterson -	ditto -	Phillipsfield -	21 - -		
22 July -	William Nonville -	-- male prædial un- attached, head car- penter and wheel- wright.	Mr. Noyse, master	- - -	100 - -	-- In this case the master offered him 50l. per annum and all his present allowances, house, grounds, &c.; has declined it, and said some person would pay the amount.—In no instance have the local magistrates refused to reduce the thirds from the valuation.
TOTAL - - £.				364 16 7	190 16 8	Thos. Baines, Spec. Justice.
PARISH OF ST. JOHN, GUANABOA DISTRICT:						
1837:						
4 Jan. -	Sarah Mills -	female, pr. ap. -	Spring Vale -	45 - -		
—	Ann Blair -	ditto -	ditto -	22 10 -		
28 March	Jane Cummins -	female, pr. un. -	Prospect -	44 6 8		
18 April -	Robert Archer -	male, pr. un. -	ditto -	73 6 8		
2 May -	William Thomas -	ditto -	Bowerwood -	- - -	70 - -	Were not pro- vided with funds sufficient.
—	J. Wilson -	ditto -	ditto -	- - -	70 - -	
—	Nicholas Kelly -	male, pr. ap. -	Mr. Hogg -	- - -	66 3 4	
11 May -	Mary Therwoval -	female, pr. ap. -	Crawle -	- - -	51 13 4	
1 July -	Sarah Donald -	female, non-pr. -	Mr. Byles -	9 6 8		
TOTAL - - £.				284 10 -	257 16 8	E. D. Baynes, Special Justice.
PARISH OF ST. ANDREW, WINDWARD DISTRICT:						
1836:						
10 Dec. -	John Thomson -	male, pr., unat. -	Content -	72 17 4		
1837:						
11 Jan. -	Margaret Cameron -	fe., n.-pr. hou.-serv.	Middleton -	- - -	20 11 1	
—	Dolly Bell -	ditto -	ditto -	- - -	16 9 -	
13 Feb. -	Evelina Whittle -	ditto -	Peter's Rock -	25 11 1		
—	Rt. March Whittle -	male, pr. att. -	ditto -	67 8 7		
—	Richard Williams -	ditto -	Newton -	- - -	67 8 7	
—	Esther Shaw -	£, n.-pr. c. & h.-ser.	Claremont -	23 6 8		
—	Amelia Reynolds -	female, pr. att. -	Constitution Hill -	53 6 8		
7 March -	Ann Pinnock -	female, non pr. -	Hall's Prospect -	17 - -		
27 March -	Susan Bermingham -	ditto, little girl -	Silver Hill -	8 17 10		
—	James Grant -	- - -	ditto -	- - -	- - -	-- difference as to class.
28 March -	Mary A. Kirkpatrick -	female, pr. att. -	Maryland -	32 16 8		
12 April -	Rachael Simson -	ditto -	Content -	- - -	45 3 4	
—	Daniel Joseph -	male, pr. att. -	ditto -	- - -	26 13 4	
26 April -	James Hinds -	do., driv. of a m. gang	Silver Hill -	- - -	34 13 4	
22 May -	Joseph Stuart -	male, pr. att. -	Mount Lebanon -	- - -	55 - -	
19 June -	Robert Whittle -	ditto, and const. -	Peter's Rock -	60 15 -		
—	Frances Whittle -	fem., n.-pr., h.-ser.	ditto -	17 13 4		
3 July -	Elizabeth Castile -	ditto -	Middleton -	16 13 8		
13 July -	Joseph Cockburn -	male, pr. att. -	Charlemont -	26 13 4		
—	Edward Fishbourne -	male, n.-pr. h.-serv.	ditto -	20 - -		
TOTAL - - £.				453 - 2	265 18 8	Stephen Bourne, Special Justice.

DATE of Valuation.	NAME Of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class, and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of the Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if unconcluded.
				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
PARISH OF ST. DAVID, YALLAH'S DISTRICT :						
16 Jan. 1837	Eliza Jaib -	female, non-pr. -	Æolus Valley -	32 - -		
1 Feb. -	Sally Roberts -	ditto -	ditto -	34 - -		
—	Diana Amett -	female, pr. ap. -	Albion -	58 6 8		
25 —	Mary Henry -	female, non-pr. -	Cocoa Walk -	18 - -		
27 —	Mary Wright -	female, pr. ap. -	Windsor Forest -	41 - -		
2 March	A. Douglas -	male, pr. unatt. -	Bloomfield -	- - -	64 - -	
10 —	N. Forbes -	male, pr. ap. -	Middleton -	- - -	60 - -	
—	J. Harris -	boy, pr. ap. -	Mount Sinai -	30 - -		
1 June -	E. Dick -	female, pr. ap. -	Norris -	- - -	38 - -	
—	M. A. Anderson -	ditto -	Windsor Castle -	- - -	42 - -	
—	D. Law -	male pr. unatt. -	R. Law -	- - -	52 15 -	
—	Francis Tyrie -	female, pr. ap. -	Fair Prospect -	- - -	46 18 11	
7 —	J. Ruse -	male, pr. ap., head coop., carp. & con.	Cocoa Walk -	102 6 8		
1 July -	H. Wilson -	female, non-pr. -	River Head -	18 - -		St. J. Bedford, Spec. Just.
TOTAL - £.				233 13 4	303 13 4	
PARISH OF ST. ELIZABETH DISTRICT :						
2 Nov. 1836	Aaron Johnston -	pr. sawyer -	Cs. Patrick, decd. -	55 - -		
8 —	Susan Brown -	pr. -	Mexico -	35 - -		
—	Margery Rose -	non-pr. -	ditto -	20 - -		
—	William Reid -	pr. field -	Oxford -	- - -	35 - -	
2 Jan. 1837	Frances South -	non-pr. -	James South -	22 10 -		
6 —	Ellen Berry -	ditto -	Bagdale -	15 - -		
—	Amelia Lloyd -	pr. -	Elim -	38 - -		
—	Susan Daniel -	non-pr. -	Two-mile Wood -	19 - -		
—	Christopher Blake -	ditto -	Lancaster -	- - -	10 - -	
—	Providence D. Blake -	ditto -	ditto -	- - -	7 - -	
—	Thomas D. Blake -	ditto -	ditto -	- - -	10 - -	
—	Sarah Topping -	ditto -	Elim -	22 - -		
—	Ann Mullings -	ditto -	Two-mile Wood -	19 - -		
—	William M'Corkell -	ditto -	ditto -	12 - -		
—	Isabella Daly -	ditto -	ditto -	22 - -		
—	Rosana Daly -	ditto -	ditto -	22 - -		
—	Simon Atkinson -	ditto -	ditto -	- - -	10 - -	
—	Mary Ann Chambers -	ditto -	ditto -	- - -	12 - -	
7 Feb. -	Harriet Andrews -	ditto -	Oxford -	21 - -		
—	Susan Taylor -	ditto -	ditto -	21 - -		
—	Rosetta Schomberg -	ditto -	Mrs. Corf -	24 - -		
—	Mary Clarke -	ditto -	Miss Blair -	20 - -		
18 March	Edward Carr -	pr. mason -	John Hylton -	90 16 8		
—	James Shaw -	ditto, field -	Heirs Wm. Shaw -	47 10 -		
—	John Griffith -	ditto, carpenter -	William Rowe -	- - -	90 - -	-- hired at his own wish.
—	Mary Thompson -	non-pr. -	Bagdale -	22 - -		
—	Ellen Dunkley -	pr. -	Mexico -	- - -	51 5 -	
—	Rose Ann Williams -	ditto -	ditto -	- - -	35 - -	
—	Thomas Richards -	ditto, field -	Appleton -	- - -	45 - -	
—	Thomas Pennock -	pr. cooper -	Two-mile Wood -	82 - -		
—	Wm. Burt Wright -	ditto, field -	Est. Miss Burt -	50 - -		
—	Margaret Carr -	ditto -	H. Hutchinson -	- - -	45 - -	
11 April -	Joseph Williams -	pr. carpenter -	Mitcham -	75 - -		
—	Geo. Adams -	ditto, field -	Union -	- - -	52 - -	
—	Jane Isaacs -	non-pr. -	Keynsham -	15 - -		
—	Sarah Golburn -	ditto -	Oxford -	17 10 -		
—	Sarah Watson -	ditto -	Windsor -	17 10 -		
9 May -	Flora Smith -	ditto -	Bagdale -	19 - -		
—	John M'Cleish -	pr. field -	Rose's Valley -	44 10 -		
—	Lewis Wright -	non-pr. -	Barton -	18 - -		
—	Thomas Murray -	pr. field -	Mrs. Monteith -	50 - -		
6 June -	Eliza Smith -	non-pr. -	Oxford -	16 - -		
—	Edward Stevenson -	pr. carpenter -	Lancaster -	- - -	40 - -	
—	Joseph Taylor -	ditto, field -	Mount Pleasant -	50 - -		
—	Elizabeth Smith -	ditto -	ditto -	45 - -		
—	Francis Martin -	ditto -	Brighton -	50 - -		
—	Caroline White -	non-pr. -	Grosmonde -	19 - -		
3 July -	Amelia Thompson -	ditto -	Harmony Hall -	16 - -		
—	James Stewart -	pr. carpenter -	ditto -	65 - -		
—	Thomas Samms -	ditto -	ditto -	70 - -		
—	Robert Williams -	ditto, field -	Grosmonde -	45 - -		
—	Elizabeth Samuels -	pr. -	Carrisbrook -	- - -	35 - -	
—	Margaret Dodd -	ditto -	ditto -	15 - -		
—	G. W. Dickenson -	ditto -	Barton -	48 - -		
—	E. A. Farquharson -	non-pr. -	Miss R. Javary -	8 - -		
—	Frances B. Ewing -	ditto -	ditto -	5 - -		
—	Rebecca Myers -	pr. -	Belmore Castle -	36 - -		
—	Rachael Blake -	ditto -	ditto -	40 - -		
TOTAL - - £.				1,464 6 8	477 5 -	W. A. Bell, Spec. Justice.

DATE of Valuation.	NAME of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class, and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of the Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if unconcluded.
PARISH OF ST. JAMES, CENTRE AND SEA-SIDE TO LEEWARD DISTRICT:						
1836:				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
5 Nov. -	James Davis -	male, non-pr. -	Miss Comft. Hine	11 18 11		
—	Frances Williams -	female, non-pr. -	ditto - -	9 11 2		
—	Ann Gordon -	ditto - -	Miss S. J. Hine	11 18 11		
12 —	Mary Aitken -	ditto - -	St. James's Park	10 4 -		
26 —	Alex. S. Ogilvy -	male, pr. ap. -	Reading Pen -	13 - 8		
10 Dec. -	Ann Parks -	female, non-pr. -	Irwin - -	16 - -		
—	David Buchanan -	male, pr. ap. -	Reading & Plumb.	48 - -		
17 —	Mary Panther -	female, pr. ap. -	Bogue - -	18 2 6		
1837:						
7 Jan. -	Rosy W. Lawrence	female, non-pr. -	Mr. John Hine -	- - -	18 - -	
11 March	William Henry -	male, non-pr. -	Mrs. Teasdale -	11 2 3		
2 April -	Helena Holmes -	female, non-pr. -	Williamsfield -	15 5 11		
29 —	William Sheergold	male, non-pr. -	Claremount -	10 4 -		
6 May -	Frances Bird -	female, non-pr. -	Reading - -	9 16 8		
13 —	Andrew Wilson -	ma., pr. ap., carpent ^r	Guilsbro' - -	- - -	85 11 2	
—	Mary Patterson -	female, non-pr. -	Mr. Lumly -	14 5 11		
15 July -	Augusta Alison -	female, pr. ap. -	Worcester -	18 5 5		
22 —	Silvia Wilson -	ditto - -	Copse - -	45 - -		
-	Alexander Ogilvy -	male, pr. ap. -	Reading & Plumb.	- - -	30 - -	
TOTAL - £.				262 16 4	133 11 2	

William Carnaby, Special Justice.

PARISH OF ST. THOMAS-IN-THE-EAST, MANCHIONEAL DISTRICT:						
1836:						
10 Dec. -	Clarissa Currie -	female, non-pr. -	Jane Wright -	21 2 6		
—	George Russell -	male, pr. unattached	ditto - -	40 5 -		
14 —	Janet M'Quaig -	female, non-pr. -	Fair Prospect est.	17 6 8		
17 —	Robert M'Farlane	male, pr. ap. -	A. Cameron, esq.	- - -	54 7 6	
—	Sarah Phillips -	female, pr. ap. -	Williamsfield est.	24 3 4		
1837:						
14 Jan. -	Thomas Blakely -	male, non-pr., hos- pital doctor.	Spring Valley est.	31 13 4		
—	Margery Cousens -	female, non-pr. -	ditto - -	24 13 4		
19 —	Letitia Pringle -	female, pr. ap. -	Happy Grove pl.	43 3 4		
16 Feb. -	Allick Ross -	male, pr. ap., young	Mulatto River est.	16 2 11		
—	Elizabeth Saunders	fem., pr. ap., young	ditto - -	18 8 9		
—	Hannah Saunders -	female, non-pr. -	Spring Valley est.	9 14 7		
—	James Clarke -	male, pr. ap., cooper	Muirtown estate	69 3 4		
18 —	Christiana Nicholas	female, pr. ap. -	Elmwood estate	35 - -		
24 —	J. H. A. Lawrence	male, pr. ap., young	Hartford estate -	- - -	14 6 8	
25 —	Thomas Scott -	male, pr., un. -	Kensington plant.	- - -	106 13 4	
16 March	Margaret Allwood	female, non-pr. -	Providence estate	25 - -		
—	Mary Johnson -	female, pr. ap. -	Windsor Forest -	- - -	50 - -	
—	Thomas Graham -	male, pr. ap. -	ditto - -	- - -	38 6 8	
—	Cath. Bloomfield -	fem., pr. ap., young	Mulatto River -	12 - -		
—	Sarah Hunter -	female, pr. ap. -	Windsor Forest -	- - -	38 6 8	
25 —	Sophia Thompson -	fem., pr. ap., young	Hartford estate -	- - -	12 - -	
1 April -	Peggy M'Pherson -	female, non-pr. -	Hector's River est.	19 17 6		
8 —	Richard Murray -	male, pr., un. -	Kensington plant.	- - -	35 - -	
15 —	John M'Nab -	ma., pr. ap., carpent ^r	Happy Grove -	- - -	60 - -	
22 —	Christian Kelly -	female, non-pr. -	Egg Hill plant. -	14 13 4		
1 May -	Jessy Bigson -	female, pr. ap. -	Mulatto River -	23 15 -		
13 —	Richmond Murdock	male, non-pr. -	Betty's Hope -	22 13 4		
—	Alexander Ross -	ditto - -	Mulatto River -	36 13 4		
—	Polly Currie -	female, pr. ap. -	Mulatto River est.	31 6 8		
18 —	Jasper Farmer -	male, pr. ap., young	Staining estate -	12 - -		
20 —	Susan King -	female, pr. ap. -	Egg Hill plant. -	- - -	45 - -	
—	Mary Wedderburn	ditto - -	Williamsfield -	- - -	45 - -	
27 —	Elizabeth Eatson -	female, non-pr. -	Rural Vale estate	18 - -		
29 July -	Thomas Fisher -	male, pr. ap. -	Grange Hill Pen	48 - -		
TOTAL - £.				614 16 3	499 - 10	

R. Chamberlaine, Jun., Special Justice.

DATE of Valuation.	N A M E of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class, and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of the Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if unconcluded.
ST. JAMES, WINDWARD DISTRICT:				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
1837:						
25 Jan. -	Catherine Scott -	female, non-pr. -	Leogan estate -	20 - -		
1 March -	Elizabeth Ferguson -	ditto -	Canan estate -	17 - -		
	David Mills -	male, non-pr. -	ditto -	17 - -		
1 April -	Mary A. Anderson -	female, non-pr. -	Chatham estate -	17 15 7		
13 -	Ann Campbell -	ditto -	Content estate -	17 4 2		
1 May -	Kate <i>alias</i> Catherine Pitt -	ditto -	Dunfries estate -	10 - -		
		male, pr. ap. -	ditto -	19 10 -		
	Cuff <i>alias</i> J. Dunston -	ditto -	ditto -	17 6 8		
1 June -	Charles Hardeman -	male, carpenter -	Canan estate -	41 6 9		
	Ann Wiggin -	female, non-pr. -	Spot Valley -	4 13 4		
	Bessy Anderson -	female, pr. ap. -	ditto -	12 13 4		
	Judy <i>alias</i> P. Barrett -	ditto -	ditto -	12 13 4		
1 July -	Sarah Ross -	female, non-pr. -	Chatham estate -	14 8 10 $\frac{3}{4}$		
	Mary M'Farlane -	ditto -	Adelphi estate -	10 5 5		
			TOTAL - £.	231 17 5 $\frac{3}{4}$		R. Cocking, Sp. Magistrate.
PARISH OF ST. THOMAS-IN-THE-VALE, WINDWARD DISTRICT:						
1836:				63 - -		
11 Nov. -	Henry Paterson -	male, pr. un. -	Edward Clouston -	- - -	40 - -	
25 -	Robert Shand -	m., n-p., hothousem. -	Bybrook estate -	- - -	46 15 -	
3 Dec. -	Mary Ann Birkett -	female, pr. ap. -	Alex. Hunter -	- - -		
1837:						
17 Feb. -	Alex. M'Donald -	male, pr. ap., carp ^r -	Hoghole -	- - -	59 - -	
	Arch. Sutherland -	male, non-pr. -	ditto -	20 - -		
	Alexander Green -	male, pr. ap. -	Bybrook -	51 - -		
11 March -	James Reid -	male, pr. un. -	John Munro -	- - -	- - -	- - Associate jus- tices insisting on too high a sum.
21 April -	William Dobney -	male, pr. ap., carp ^r -	Springfield -	50 - -		
	Sarah Dobney -	female, non-pr. -	ditto -	16 13 4		
	Frances James -	ditto -	Mount Mathews -	16 13 4		
	Rosa Richards -	ditto -	Mount Industry -	- - -	- - -	- - Refused to de- duct one-third.
19 May -	Phillis Francis -	female, pr. ap. -	Mount Concord -	53 5 9		
			TOTAL - £.	270 12 5	145 15 -	R. S. Cooper, Sp. Magistrate.
PARISH OF ST. JAMES, MAROON TOWN:						
1837:						
2 March -	Thomas Bernard -	male, pr., carpenter -	Bandon -	- - -	59 - -	one-third deducted.
	George Gray -	male, pr., field ap. -	Flamstead -	- - -	39 - -	ditto.
27 April -	James Currie -	male, non-pr. -	Castle Weemyss -	- - -	15 - -	ditto.
	Irene Nailson -	female, non pr. -	ditto -	- - -	18 - -	ditto.
14 June -	James Taylor -	m., pr., carp ^r & coop ^r -	Spring Mount -	- - -	98 - -	ditto.
	Jerry Carrol -	ma., pr., carp ^r & mason -	Content -	- - -	98 - -	ditto.
5 July -	Robert M'Kinelay -	male, pr., carpenter; not healthy.	Twyford -	41 - -	- - -	ditto.
			TOTAL - £.	41 - -	327 - -	J. M. Crockett, Special Justice.
PARISH OF ST. ANDREW'S, CENTRAL DISTRICT: From 3d March to 31st July 1837 inclusive.						
1837:						
7 March -	Elizabeth Hugate -	fem., n-p., hd. cook -	Miss Green's tavn. -	50 - -	- - -	one-third deducted.
4 April -	Jane Taylor -	female, pr. ap. -	Hall's Delight -	56 - -	- - -	ditto.
11 -	Ann Inch -	female, invalid -	George Pain -	- 10 -	- - -	
	Margaret Jackson -	female, pr. ap. -	Stirling Castle -	32 - -	- - -	ditto.
	Judy Tate -	female, non-pr. -	Hope estate -	16 - -	- - -	ditto.
1 May -	Johan Williams -	female pr. ap. -	Sarah Fraser -	20 - -	- - -	ditto.
	William Armstrong -	male, pr., carpenter -	Maverley -	- - -	77 - -	
	William Seward -	male, pr., ap. -	William Conoly -	45 - -	- - -	ditto.
	John Hume -	male, non-pr. -	Hope estate -	20 - -	- - -	ditto.
23 -	Hanna Christian -	female, pr. ap. -	Spring estate -	45 - -	- - -	ditto.
	Thomas Moody -	male, pr. ap. -	James Cockburn -	- - -	20 - -	
	Susan Moody -	female, pr. ap. -	- - -	- - -	5 - -	
	Louisa Mattie -	ditto -	- - -	- - -	40 - -	
	Eliza Taylor -	female, non-pr. -	Mattie Pen -	- - -	- - -	ditto.
	Judy Barnet -	female, pr. ap. -	Hope estate -	16 - -	- - -	ditto.
27 June -	Mary Gordon -	ditto -	ditto -	50 - -	- - -	ditto.
4 July -	Ann Trueman -	ditto -	Cedar Valley -	30 - -	- - -	ditto.
	George T. Rud -	male, non-pr. -	Mrs. A. M'Kenzie -	30 - -	- - -	ditto.
25 -	Eleanor Baugh -	female, pr. ap. -	ditto -	10 - -	- - -	ditto.
	Thomas E. East -	male, non-pr. -	Hall's Prospect -	40 - -	- - -	ditto.
	Abraham Hughes -	ditto -	Rose Mount -	25 - -	- - -	ditto.
	Thomas Dillon -	male, pr. ap. -	ditto -	20 - -	- - -	ditto.
			ditto -	- - -	45 - -	
			TOTAL - £.	505 10 -	187 - -	R. Daly, Special Justice.

SLAVERY IN THE BRITISH COLONIES.

DATE of Valuation.	NAME of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class, and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of the Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if unconcluded.
PARISH OF ST. ANDREW'S, CENTRAL DISTRICT: From the 1st August to the 30th September 1837 inclusive.				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
1837:						
1 Aug.	Agnes Marks	female, non-pr.	J. R. Bryce	21 6 8	- - -	} $\frac{1}{3}$ deducted.
—	Jane Gilmore	ditto	T. Dasiloa	16 - -	- - -	
—	James Webster	male, non-pr.	ditto	10 - -	- - -	
—	Cecelia Edwards	female, non-pr.	ditto	16 - -	- - -	
5 —	Jane M'Farlane	ditto	- - -	11 6 8	- - -	
—	James Daly	non-pr., h ^d carpentr	Cherry Garden	- - -	80 - -	
—	Sarah Syms	fe. pr., washerwoman	Dr. C. Campbell	- - -	40 - -	
—	Jeanet Waller	fe. pr., occasional	Mrs. Arrow Smith	- - -	45 - -	
—	Nat. Marsden	male, pr.	Salisbury Plain	16 - -	- - -	
—	Edward Campbell	male, non-pr.	D. Duncan	- - -	18 - -	
2 —	James M'Leod	male, pr.	Cedar Valley	- - -	50 - -	
—	William Mattis	male, non-pr.	ditto	20 - -	- - -	
—	Julia Clifford	female, non-pr.	John King	18 - -	- - -	
—	M. A. Dawkins	ditto	Hall's Prospect	35 - -	- - -	
9 —	Alexander Gill	male, pr.	D. Cooper	- - -	64 - -	
—	William Spence	ditto	Miss Asher	- - -	50 - -	
—	Edward Young	male, non-pr.	Mr. Kerr	5 - -	- - -	
—	John Young	ditto	ditto	8 - -	- - -	
—	James Caffrey	ditto	ditto	- - -	10 - -	
—	Mary Vernon	female, non-pr.	ditto	8 - -	- - -	
—	Mary Ann Vernon	ditto	ditto	- - -	8 - -	
—	Henry Brown	male, pr.	William Rose	36 - -	- - -	
—	Mary Curtis	female, non-pr.	Mr. Kerr	12 - -	- - -	
—	Betsy Curtis	ditto	ditto	11 - -	- - -	
—	Mary Gardiner	ditto	ditto	- - -	15 - -	
—	William Thomas	male, pr.	Miss Baker	40 - -	- - -	
5 Sept.	Edward Bryant	male, non-pr.	Maverly	- - -	25 - -	
—	William Fuller	non-pr., carpenter	James Sadler	45 - -	- - -	
—	Sophia Rackland	female, pr.	Hope estate	35 - -	- - -	
2 Sept.	Thomas Hunt	male, non-pr.	Amy Ann Hall	- - -	32 - -	
—	Eliza Thomas	female, pr. ap.	Cedar Valley	30 - -	- - -	
				£. 394 3 4	437 - -	
						R. Daly, Special Justice.

PARISH OF MANCHESTER, DISTRICT COLONIES. From the 1st November 1836 to the 31st July 1837 inclusive.						
1837:						
6 April	A. Copeland	male, pr., sawyer	Huntley	57 17 3	- - -	
10 June	Sarah Richards	female, pr. ap.	Medina	- - -	45 - -	
—	Richard Tomlinson	male, pr., sawyer	Huntley	68 - -	- - -	
—	Richard Frith	male, pr., cooper	Maidstone	- - -	60 - -	
—	Mary Frith	female, pr.	ditto	- - -	41 - -	
—	M. Colliard	female, non-pr.	ditto	- - -	20 13 -	
—	Sarah Blake	ditto	ditto	- - -	19 8 -	
17 —	Eliza Rose	ditto	Marshall's Pen	5 - -	- - -	
—	M. Swaby	female, pr.	Spur Tree	38 4 -	- - -	
8 July	William Gauntlet	male, pr. ap.	Wickwar	47 16 -	- - -	
12 —	Sarah Bowen	female, non-pr. ap.	Fairfield	15 4 5	- - -	
				£. 242 1 8	186 1 -	
						H. W. Danson, Special Justice.

PARISH OF ST. ANN'S, LEEWARD DISTRICT:						
1836:						
2 Nov.	William Clark	male, pr., carpenter	Devon	34 8 4	- - -	
—	Frances Davis	female, pr. ap.	Garden Hall	54 12 6	- - -	
—	William Webb	male, pr., carpenter	Southampton	47 15 11	- - -	
10 Dec.	William Cole	male, pr. ap.	Caledonia	- - -	43 - -	
—	Thomas Wood	male, pr., cooper	Cave Valley	71 13 4	- - -	
—	Robert Dixon	ditto	ditto	59 14 2	- - -	
—	Job Dale	male, pr., carpenter	Devon	71 13 4	- - -	
11 Mar. 1837	Henry Sharpe	male, pr. ap.	Cave River	37 6 8	- - -	
—	Francis Gordon	male, non-pr. ap.	Alexandria	21 6 8	- - -	
—	William Palmer	male, pr. ap.	Devon	52 4 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	- - -	
—	James Oliver	ditto	Clydesdale	- - -	52 5 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	
—	Henry Wallace	ditto	Southampton	50 12 6	- - -	
—	John Williams	ditto	St. Acre	33 6 8	- - -	

DATE of Valuation.	NAME of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class, and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of the Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if unconcluded.
PARISH OF ST. ANN'S, LEEWARD DISTRICT— <i>continued</i> :				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
1837:						
8 April -	Thomas Johnston -	male, pr., cooper -	Darlington -	63 17 6		
—	Mary Ann Paterson -	male, pr. ap. -	Muir House -	50 - -		
—	Judy Waters -	female, non-pr. -	Boro' Bridge -	22 4 5 $\frac{1}{4}$		
—	Eliza West -	female, pr. ap. -	Alexandria -	46 13 4		
—	Thomas Linton -	male, pr. ap. -	Scarbro' -	33 2 6		
—	Richard Christie -	ditto -	Doncaster -	55 6 8		
—	Robert Brown -	ditto -	Southampton -	- - -	47 15 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	
—	James M'Leod -	male, pr. ap. -	Armidale -	15 12 6		
—	Elizabeth Gordon -	female, pr. ap. -	Kensington -	42 4 5 $\frac{1}{4}$		
—	Letitia Brown -	ditto -	Knutsford -	53 1 8		
—	Sarah Posey -	ditto -	Boro' Bridge -	48 6 8		
—	Rosey James -	ditto -	Devon -	39 6 8		
13 May -	Amelia Scott -	female, non-pr. -	Hyde Park -	13 13 11		
—	Eliza Sharpe -	ditto -	Cave River -	16 17 9 $\frac{1}{2}$		
—	Elizabeth Kenneday -	ditto -	Bell View -	18 18 8		
—	Henry Clarke -	male, pr. ap. -	Cave Valley -	- - -	62 - 7	
—	David Dale -	ditto -	Devon -	- - -	37 8 8	
—	John Reid -	male, pr., carpenter -	Boro' Bridge -	69 17 4		
—	Francis Johnston -	ditto -	Southampton -	82 15 -		
—	Margaret Waters -	female, pr. ap. -	Ballantoy -	40 - -		
17 June -	Mary Eliza Nash -	female, non-pr. -	Esling -	18 - -		
8 July -	Samuel Rose -	male, pr. ap. -	Cave Valley -	- - -	54 10 -	
—	James Dawson -	ditto -	ditto -	- - -	44 18 4	
31 —	Sarah Campbell -	female, pr. ap. -	Muir House -	- - -	31 12 11	
TOTAL - - £.				1,284 12 8	373 11 7	

All valuations before the undersigned are, and have been invariably, conducted on the principle of deducting one-third; it is not unusual for apprentices to remain one, three, five, and six months on the estates after the value of their services have been estimated, when a proportionate moiety is always deducted from the original sum awarded. It is quite probable, that all these in the unpaid column, will have received their manumission before these remarks reach England.

T. A. Dillon, S. J. P.

PARISH OF CLARENDON, LOWER DISTRICT:						
1836:						
24 Dec. -	Charles Reid -	male., pr., field lab.	J. S. Johnson, small settler.	- - -	46 13 4	
1837:						
21 Jan. -	Mary Anne Bravo -	fem., pr., field lab.	Sunbury plant. -	63 - -		
—	Henry Hayle -	male, non-pr., dom.	Parnassus su. est.	33 18 -		
18 Feb. -	Anne Johnson -	fem., non pr., dom.	Whitney ditto -	28 - -		
—	Fanny Harris -	fem., pr., field lab.	Richmond Park pl.	50 - -		
—	Mary M'Donald -	ditto -	Whitney sug. est.	42 13 4		
22 —	Isabella Herring -	ditto -	ditto -	16 - -		
4 March	Charles Kemble -	male, non-pr., dom.	Pastures Pen -	24 - -		
—	Elsie Hayle -	fem., pr., field lab.	Parnassus su. est.	17 - -		
—	Alexander M'Lean -	male, pr., field lab.	Stewarton plant.	54 - -		
18 —	Elizabeth Frances -	fem., pr., field lab.	York Pen -	- - -	63 - -	
—	Thomas Brown -	male, pr., field lab.	Green Park sett.	65 - -		
1 April -	Mary Anne Williams -	fem., non-pr., dom.	Pastures Pen -	15 - -		
—	Elizabeth Smith -	ditto -	ditto -	- - -	34 13 4	
—	Jane Edwards -	ditto -	ditto -	34 13 4		
—	Thomas Gale -	male, pr., head con.	ditto -	64 - -		
—	John Salmon -	male, pr., field lab.	ditto -	- - -	64 - -	
—	Frances Turner -	fem., pr., field lab.	ditto -	- - -	32 11 10	
—	John Foxan -	male, pr., carpenter	Folly Pen -	- - -	95 11 2	
—	Sarah Williams -	fem., pr., field lab.	ditto -	- - -	64 - -	
—	Elizabeth Thomas -	ditto -	Smoky Hole sett.	38 6 8		
15 —	Jannet Hamilton -	fem., non-pr., dom.	Clarendon Park es.	14 - -		
—	Charles Morgan -	male, pr., field lab.	Parnassus sug. est.	18 - -		
—	Robert Morgan -	ditto -	ditto -	14 - -		
20 May -	Mary Smith -	fem., pr., field lab.	St. Toolie's su. es.	21 12 11		
—	Malina Thomas -	fem., non-pr., dom.	Parnassus ditto -	10 2 1		
—	Henry Scott -	m., n.-pr., stable boy	Clarendon Park do.	12 13 9		
—	Catherine James -	fem., non-pr., dom.	Rutland sett. -	8 - -		
3 June -	Frances Brown -	fem., pr., field lab.	Halse Hall su. es.	- - -	57 - -	
1 July -	John Shand -	male, non-pr., dom.	St. Toolie's ditto	10 7 6		
—	Letitia Pinnock -	fem., non-pr., dom.	Smoky Hole sett.	7 - -		
—	Thomas Wood -	male, non-pr., dom.	Clarendon Park s. e.	10 7 6		
—	Jane Nimbbard -	fem., non-pr., dom.	Whitney sug. est.	20 10 -		
—	Robert Johnson -	male, pr., watchman	ditto -	40 - -		
15 —	Dolly Bryant -	f., pr., fowlhouse at.	Parnassus ditto -	15 13 4		
—	Sarah Cole -	fem., non-pr., dom.	Bellemont Pen -	10 13 4		
£.				759 1 9	457 9 8	

Jas. Kennet Dawson, Special Justice.

DATE of Valuation.	NAME of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class, and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of the Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if uncompleted.
PARISH OF ST. ELIZABETH'S, LEEWARD DISTRICT:						
1836:				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
5 Nov. -	John Watson -	male, pr. ap. -	Lecana -	40 - -		
—	Amelia Holness -	female, non-pr. -	Giddy Hall -	14 - -		
11 —	Sarah Miller -	ditto -	Spring Vale -	14 - -		
12 —	George Forbes -	male, pr. ap. -	Thatchfield -	32 - -		
—	Eliza Daly -	female, pr. un. -	Emans -	28 - -		
1837:						
16 Feb. -	James Campbell -	male, non-pr. -	Holland -	24 - -		
24 —	Ann Brown -	female, pr. un. -	Whitehall -	34 3 4		
2 Mar. -	John Shakespeare -	male, pr. ap. -	Woodlands -	65 10 -		
—	John Steward -	male, non-pr. -	Ipswich -	34 - -	34 - -	
—	Eliza Simms -	female, pr. ap. -	Y. S. -	45 10 -		
—	Julian -	ditto -	ditto -	34 - -		
8 April -	William Smalling -	male, pr. un. -	Miss Allen -	53 7 -		
—	Richard Bailey -	male, pr. ap. -	Mr. Dobb -	58 - -		
16 —	Rachel Thompson -	female, non-pr. -	Miss Delaroche -	25 - -		
22 —	Ann Hewitt -	female, pr. ap. -	Y. S. -	37 - -		
—	Thomas Hind -	ma., pr. ap. carpenter	ditto -	71 - -	71 - -	
—	Mary Prince -	female, pr. ap. -	ditto -	30 - -		
—	Charles Bowen -	male, pr. ap. -	ditto -	48 - -	48 - -	
29 —	Adam Smith -	ditto -	Cottage -	52 10 -		
26 May -	Robert Woodstock -	ditto -	Y. S. -	60 - -	60 - -	
—	Rosy Smith -	female, pr. ap. -	Ipswich -	47 - -		
27 —	Felicia Gale -	female, pr. un. -	Whitehall -	47 - -		
3 June -	Alicia Gale -	ditto -	ditto -	45 - -		
—	James Cooper -	male, pr. un. -	ditto -	50 - -		
17 —	James Smith -	male, pr. ap., cooper	Holland -	58 - -		
31 July -	John Wallace -	male, pr. un. -	Whitehall -	58 13 4		
—	George Williams -	ditto -	ditto -	48 10 -		
—	Bonella White -	ditto -	ditto -	42 13 4		
			£.	983 17 -	213 - -	John Daughtrey, S M.
PARISH OF ST. THOMAS IN THE EAST, AND ST. DAVID'S DISTRICT:						
1836:						
19 Nov. -	Ellen Browne -	female, pr. ap. -	Cha. Scott, esq. -	39 - -		
26 —	Ann Francis -	female, non-pr. -	Spring Field -	16 - -		
—	Robert Paterson -	male, non-pr. -	ditto -	12 - -		
3 Dec. -	Henrietta Drake -	female, pr. un. -	Stony Gut. -			
10 —	Eliza Williams -	female, non-pr. -	Mr. Langstone -	10 - -		
—	Grace Winter -	ditto -	John Martin, esq. -	18 12 6		
17 —	Amelia Jacobs -	ditto -	Shady Spring -	23 10 -		
1837:						
28 Jan. -	Alick Donaldson -	male, pr. un. -	Prospect Pen -	40 - -		
—	Christian Tarbutt -	female, pr. un. -	ditto -	40 - -		
—	Charles Noyes -	ma., n.-p., carpenter	G. Fitzgerald, carp. -	35 - -		
11 Feb. -	Beckford Donaldson -	male, pr. un. -	Prospect Pen -	46 - -		
—	Ann Reid -	female, non-pr. -	Coughton Hall -	16 - -		
—	Ellen McKay -	ditto -	Middleton -	12 - -		
—	Maria Thompson -	female, pr. -	Prospect Pen -			
25 —	Charles Hill -	male, pr. un. -	Middleton -	50 - -		
18 Mar. -	Fanny Seaton -	female, non-pr. -	Miss Moore -	16 - -		
25 —	James McQueen -	ma., n.-p., carpenter	John Martin, esq. -	27 - -		
—	George Bennet -	ditto -	ditto -	27 - -		
1 April -	Christian Johnson -	female, pr. ap. -	Georgia -	45 - -		
—	Margaret Taylor -	ditto -	ditto -	35 - -		
—	Mary Panton -	ditto -	Mount Pleasant -		40 - -	
22 —	Sarah Forbes -	ditto -	Green Wall -	31 13 4		
—	Caroline Scott -	female, non-pr. -	Charles Scott, esq. -	20 - -		
6 May -	Henry Bartlett -	male, pr. ap., head-cooper.	Morant -		120 - -	
—	Fanny Napier -	female, non-pr. -	ditto -	20 - -		
3 —	Jane Watson -	female, pr. ap. -	Belvidere -		31 13 4	
3 June -	George Napier -	male, non-pr. -	Spring Field -	10 - -		
5 July -	Margaret Reid -	female, non-pr. -	Hugh Paterson -	18 - -		
—	Tony -	male, pr. un. -	Prospect Pen -		80 - -	
—	Binor Donaldson -	female, pr. un. -	ditto -		60 - -	
—	Cicilia Fisher -	female, pr. -	ditto -		60 - -	
			Total - - £.	607 15 10	391 13 4	

DATE of Valuation.	N A M E of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class, and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of the Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if unconcluded.
PARISH OF ST. JAMES, MONTEPELIER, DISTRICT :				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
1836:						
5 Nov. -	Ellen Cliff -	female, non-pr. -	Montpelier -	18 13 4		
19 — -	James Geddes -	male, pr. -	same -	21 — —		
30 — -	Rich. Warren -	male, pr., carpenter -	same -	73 6 8		
6 Dec. -	Cath. Medley -	female, pr. -	Mrs. Murray -	39 4 4		
1837:						
3 Jan. -	Marg. Belfour -	female, non-pr. -	Sarah Williams -	11 8 8½		
28 — -	Sarah Scott -	female, pr. -	Hazelymph -	37 — —		
18 Mar. -	Thos. Hedley -	male, non-pr. -	Charlotte Dodd -	20 9 8		
— -	Sam. Johnson -	male, pr. -	Cinnamon Hill -	55 11 2		
— -	Wm. Anderson -	male, pr., blacksmith -	Lethie estate -	22 — —		
23 — -	Ann Thomas -	female, non-pr. -	Ginger Hill -	34 — —		
25 — -	Ann Small -	female, pr. -	Potosy estate -	15 11 1		
28 — -	Wm. Scott -	male, pr. -	Rose Hall -	55 11 2		
8 April -	Eliza Hackett -	female, non-pr. -	Roehampton -	13 — —		
— -	Eliza Thompson -	ditto -	Roehampton -	5 3 2		
9 — -	George Scarlett -	male, pr. -	Scarlettfield -	26 — —		
20 May -	Jane M'Donald -	female, pr. -	Roehampton -	12 13 4		
— -	Amelia Reid -	female, non-pr. -	Miss Dodd -	21 15 10		
23 — -	Mary Strachan -	ditto -	Miss Dodd -	27 19 2		
10 June -	Wm. Johnson -	male, pr. -	Montpelier -	52 17 5		
14 — -	Rich. Robinson -	male, n.-pr., carpen. -	Jane Hamer -	— — —	22 10 —	
15 — -	Eliza Murray -	female, non-pr. -	Roehampton -	10 8 11		
18 — -	Charlotte Tucker -	ditto -	Miss Dodd -	— — —	6 13 4	
				£. 573 13 11½	29 3 4	
						R. B. Facey, Special Justice.

PARISH OF ST. JAMES, TOWN OF MONTEGO BAY, AND SEA-SIDE ESTATES TO WINDWARD DISTRICT :

1836:						
5 Nov. -	Rosina Green -	female, pr. ap. -	Hon. S.M. Barrett, Cinnamon Hill.	9 17 10		
16 — -	Caroline Green -	female, non-pr. -	Miss Rattrens, Montego Bay.	14 16 1		
19 — -	David Clegham -	male, non-pr. -	Mr. Anderson, Flower Hill.	— — —	16 18 11	
— -	Elizabeth Green -	female, pr. ap. -	Hon. S.M. Barrett, Cinnamon Hill.	24 12 7		
— -	Condace Bowling -	ditto -	— ditto -	19 14 2		
— -	Benella Bowen -	female, non-pr. -	Mr. Bowen, Salt- spring Pen.	9 — 9		
23 — -	Rosina Jacobs -	ditto -	Miss M'Lean, Montego Bay.	22 10 —		
26 — -	Jane Perry -	ditto -	Miss Coveny, Montego Bay.	9 12 8		
3 Dec. -	Arch. Parkinson -	male, pr. ap. -	Mr. Barrett, Spring	— — —	18 6 8	
— -	Annie Cunningham -	female, non-pr. -	Mr. Allwood, Albion	— — —	19 5 2	
10 — -	Joseph Riddock -	male, non-pr. -	Mr. Solomons, Montego Bay.	9 10 —		
— -	John Lockwood -	male, non-pr., baker -	Mrs. Deliper, Montego Bay.	— — —	37 17 4	
— -	David Panther -	male, pr. ap. -	Mr. Defell, Salt- spring.	— — —	60 14 10	
— -	Maria Panther -	female, pr. ap. -	— ditto -	— — —	46 6 8	
21 — -	Jane Wetzler -	female, non-pr. -	Mr. Solomons, Montego Bay.	20 — —		
28 — -	Mary Lyon -	ditto -	Mr. Dewar, Para- dise Pen.	18 5 11		
— -	Annie Lyon -	ditto -	— ditto -	— — —	18 5 11	
1837:						
14 Jan. -	Ann Beckford -	female, pr. un. -	Mrs. Teasdale, Rose Hill.	21 5 —		
— -	Jane Appleton -	female, non-pr. -	Miss Sill, Provi- dence.	16 6 8		
25 — -	Eliza Shergold -	ditto -	Mrs. Ogle, Mon- tego Bay.	8 15 7		
28 — -	Mary Melvin -	ditto -	Miss Watson, Montego Bay.	8 13 4		

SLAVERY IN THE BRITISH COLONIES.

99

DATE of Valuation.	N A M E of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class, and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of the Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if unconcluded.
PARISH OF ST. JAMES, TOWN OF MONTEGO BAY, &c.— <i>continued.</i>				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
1837:						
28 —	Mary Merit -	female, non-pr. -	Hon. S.M. Barrett, Cinnamon Hill.	13 - -		
1 Feb. -	Maria F. Bernard -	ditto -	Mrs. Bernard, Montego Bay.	15 - -		
—	Helen Stevenson -	ditto -	Miss Rickotts, Montego Bay.	8 - -		
—	Robert Greig -	male, non-pr. -	- ditto -	10 16 8		
4 — -	James Hill -	male, pr. un. -	Mrs. Downer, Montego Bay.	32 13 4		
—	Ann Melvin -	female, non-pr. -	Miss Watson, Montego Bay.	6 10 -		
11 — -	William Shirley -	male, pr. ap. -	Hon. S.M. Barrett, Cinnamon Hill.	48 8 4		
18 — -	Annie -	female, non-pr. -	Mr. Pulias, Mon- tego Bay.	- - -	24 7 11	
4 Mar. -	Sarah Marklaw -	ditto -	Mr. Hall, Tryall -	15 2 3		
—	Elithia James -	female, pr. ap. -	Hon. S.M. Barrett, Cinnamon Hill.	22 15 7		
11 — -	Elizabeth Griffiths	ditto -	Miss Sill, Provi- dence.	- - -	36 3 4	
—	Ant. Mowbray -	male, non-pr., mason	Mr. Plummer, Montego Bay.	60 5 7		
1 April -	James Norman -	male, non-pr. -	Miss Sill, Provi- dence.	15 8 2		
—	James Hill -	male, pr., carpenter	Mr. Lawrence, Running Gut.	- - -	106 13 4	
—	James Anderson -	male, non-pr. -	Miss Samuels, Montego Bay.	- - -	31 6 -	
8 — -	Francis Watson -	ditto -	Miss Watson, Montego Bay.	15 2 3		
—	Rebecca Thomas -	female, non-pr. -	Miss Laird, Mon- tego Bay.	15 2 3		
15 — -	Sarah Bird -	ditto -	Mr. Buchanan, Redding.	8 9 5		
—	Rosy Campbell -	female, pr. ap. -	Mr. Lawrence, Running Gut.	32 14 2		
22 — -	James Popkins -	male, non-pr. -	Mr. Dunn, Lilliput	15 4 7		
—	Mary Ann Crooks	female, non-pr. -	Heirs of Miss Dun- das, Montego Bay.	18 6 8		
—	Sarah Mowat -	ditto -	Mrs. Nunez, ditto	9 - 7		
—	Cath. Bush -	ditto -	Miss Williams, St. Thomas-in-the- Vale.	14 13 4		
—	Jane Ribeau -	ditto -	Mrs. Bowen, Mon- tego Bay.	14 13 4		
—	Robin Anderson -	male, pr. ap. -	Mr. Anderson, Flower Hill.	- - -	26 3 1	
29 — -	Margaret Bennett -	female, non-pr. -	Miss Rickotts, Montego Bay.	21 3 8		
6 May -	Amelia Brown -	ditto -	Hon. S.M. Barrett, Cinnamon Hill.	12 6 8		
—	Rebecca Leslie -	ditto -	- ditto -	12 6 8		
—	George Thompson	male, pr. ap. -	Mr. Bowen, Salt- spring Pen.	13 - -		
—	* Mary Campbell -	female, non-pr. -	Estate of Miss Dundas, Mon- tego Bay.	- - -	- - -	refused to deduct one-third.
13 — -	* Edmund Lawson	male, pr. ap. -	Dr. Lawson, Por- tobello.	- - -	- - -	differed as to value.
—	Eliza Hall -	female, pr. ap. -	Mr. Anderson, Flower Hill.	24 - -		
—	Louisa Cameron -	female, non-pr. -	Mrs. Teasdale, Rose Hill.	17 17 10		
—	Peter Warburton -	male, non-pr. -	Dr. Longmore, Ginger Hill.	16 4 8		
27 — -	Mary Ann Forrest -	female, pr. ap. -	Lord Scaford, Old Montpelier.	- - -	71 4 9	
—	Lementhe Lewis -	ditto -	Hon. S.M. Barrett, Cinnamon Hill.	- - -	27 8 11	
—	Jones -	male, pr. ap. -	Lord Scaford, Old Montpelier.	29 11 2		
—	Sarah Johnston -	female, pr. ap. -	Mr. Barrett, Spring	- - -	42 4 6	
3 June -	Eliza Reid -	female, non-pr. -	Mr. Reid, Mon- tego Bay.	13 6 8		

(continued)

DATE of Valuation.	N A M E of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class, and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of the Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if unconcluded.
PARISH OF St. JAMES TOWN OF MONTEGO BAY, &c.—continued.				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
1837: 3 June	Gilbert Blackburne	male, pr. carpenter	Potosi - - -	- - -	63 6 8	
—	Thomas Watson	male, non-pr.	Miss Watson, Montego Bay.	- - -	30 1 6	
10 —	Jane Burt	female, non-pr.	Miss Sill, Providence.	12 2 5		
—	Joseph Fennel	male, non-pr.	- - ditto	12 2 5		
—	William Muirhouse	ditto	- - ditto	- 15 -		
14 —	Elvira Walker	female, non-pr.	Mr. Plummer, Montego Bay.	15 - -		
24 —	Rachel Ross	ditto	Mr. Waite, Blue-hole.	9 11 3		
1 July	Thomas Smith	male, non-pr.	Mr. Lindo, Montego Bay.	18 13 4		
—	Rachel Brown	female, non-pr.	Mr. Holmes, Montego Bay.	10 17 9		
8 —	Margaret Walker	female, pr. ap.	Mr. Breary, Johnshall.	40 15 7		
—	Bob Smith	male, non-pr.	Heirs of Mr. Dewar, Montego Bay.	11 7 6		
22 —	Hannah James	female, non-pr.	Mr. Palmer, Rose Hall.	- - -	11 13 4	
—	Jeannie Campbell	ditto	Mr. Lawrence, Running Gut.	11 13 4		
—	Thomas Perry	male, pr. ap.	Miss Sill, Providence.	20 - -		
—	Louisa Brown	female, pr. un.	Mrs. Lovejoy	12 - -		
29 —	Mary Campbell	female, non-pr.	Heirs of Miss Dundas, Montego Bay.	16 17 10		
TOTAL - £.				956 - 10	688 8 10	

Note.—The two valuations marked (*) as unconcluded have been since concluded.

Walter Finlayson, Special Justice.

PARISH OF ST. GEORGE, LEEWARD DISTRICT:						
1836: 21 Nov.	James Duncan	male, pr. ap., pun ⁿ cooper.	Gray's Inn	73 18 4		
20 Dec.	Marina Thomas	female, pr. ap.	Dover	50 - -		
—	William Gray	male, pr. un.	Harmony Hill	- - -	71 13 4	
1837: 2 Jan.	Johnson O'Hara	male, pr. ap.	Hermitage	51 7 2		
10 —	Thomas King	male, pr. un., coop., mason & carp.	Mount Vernon	89 19 8		
16 —	Elizabeth Shaw	female, pr. un.	Cottage	- - -	47 15 6	
—	Ann Sheckleford	female, non-pr.	Epsom	12 - -		
31 —	Margaret Forrester	ditto	Come See	18 - -		
10 April	Elizabeth Oates	ditto	Windsor Castle	20 - -		
—	Charlotte M'Kay	female, pr. ap.	- - ditto	32 - -		
25 —	Nancy Stewart	female, non-pr.	Low Layton	25 - -		
17 —	John Burgess	male, pr. ap.	Golden Grove	20 - -		
22 May	George Hall	ma., n. p., pun ⁿ coop.	E. Bond, Anno. Bay	31 2 3		
18 July	Alick Burton	male, pr. ap.	Lancaster	- - -	50 - -	
—	Mary Williams	female, pr. ap.	Woodstock	- - -	- - -	
24 —	Mary A. Harris	female, non-pr.	Windsor Castle	10 - -		
—	Margaret Watson	female, pr. ap.	Look Out	16 - -		
—	Peter Webb	male, pr. un.	Fort George	- - -	66 13 4	
31 —	J. Forrester	male, pr. ap.	East Prospect	50 - -		
TOTAL - £.				499 7 5	236 2 2	

See my Report of
25th July 1837.

E. E. Fishbourne,
Special Justice.

DATE of Valuation.	NAME of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class, and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of the Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if unconcluded.
PARISH OF CLARENDON UPPER DISTRICT :						
1837 :				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
14 Jan.	Jane Williams -	non-pr. - -	Macknir - -	27 13 4		
21 -	David Morrice -	ditto - -	Crawle River -	16 - -		
24 June	Christian Ross -	ditto - -	Killitts - -	16 - -		
—	Jane Smith -	ditto - -	Killitts - -	16 - -		
			TOTAL - £.	75 13 4		
George Gordon, Special Justice.						

PARISHES OF TRELAWNY and St. THOMAS-IN-THE-EAST, BLUE MOUNTAIN DISTRICT :						
TRELAWNEY :						
1836 :						
7 Nov.	Francis Rob -	male, pr., carpenter, apprentice.	Mahogany Hall Pen.	- - -	70 10 -	
—	Elizabeth Miguel -	female, non-pr. ap.	Long Pond -	16 13 4		
7 Dec.	James Galaspin -	male, pr., cooper, ap.	Kinloss - -	- - -	72 10 10	
14 -	Eliza Lawrence -	female, non-pr. ap.	Sportsman's Hall	- - -	43 16 8	- - objected to by S. J. Gregg.
1837 :						
18 Jan.	Mary Ann Nicol -	ditto - -	Hampshire -	24 - -		
24 —	Eleanor Harewood	female, pr. ap. -	Swanswick -	45 10 -		
15 Feb.	Mary Poor -	female, non-pr. ap.	Hyde -	23 12 1		
—	Mary Anderson -	ditto - -	Gibraltar -	23 12 1		
—	Janet Burke -	female, pr. ap. -	Long Pond -	- - -	44 8 4	
St. THOMAS-IN-THE-EAST, BLUE MOUNTAIN :						
11 May	Colin Simpson -	male, pr. carpenter, apprentice.	Blue Mountain	73 - -		
19 -	John Beckford -	male, pr. ap. -	Duckworth -	47 10 -		
20 -	Clementina Barkley	female, ditto -	Garbrand Hall -	- - -	32 -	
17 June	William Steadman	male, pr. carpenter, apprentice.	Mount Pleasant	- - -	75 - -	
—	Sally Johnston -	female, pr. ap. -	Petersfield -	- - -	51 - -	
—	Charles Young -	male, ditto - -	Boston and Buckingham.	53 10 -		
—	William Scott -	ditto - -	- ditto -	- - -	40 - -	
—	Simon Allen -	ditto - -	Benlomond -	51 - -		
			TOTAL - £.	358 7 6	429 5 10	
G. D. Gregg, Special Justice.						

STONEY HILL DISTRICT, St. ANDREWS ; and MAY HILL DISTRICT, MANCHESTER :						
1837 :						
25 Jan.	Mary Grant -	fem., non-pr. ap. -	Bagatelle -	25 - -		
13 April	Evelina White -	ditto - -	Marley Hill -	11 - -		
13 May	Velvet -	female, pr. ap. -	Pleasant Hill -	- - -	45 - -	Says it is too high.
27 -	Edward Forbes -	m. pr. un. a mason	John Smith -	92 - -		
31 -	Isabella Peart -	female pr. ap. -	The Isle -	- - -	56 3 4	Says it is too high.
3 June	Frank Rogers -	male non-pr. ap. -	Woodlands -	10 - -		
—	Rebecca Smith -	female, ditto -	ditto -	5 - -		
15 July	Mary Ann Jerdan	female, pr. ap. -	Wales -	48 - -		
22 -	Ben Barrett -	male, pr. ap -	Oatlands -	- - -	28 - -	
			TOTAL - £.	19 1 -	129 3 4	
John Gurley, Special Justice.						

DATE of Valuation.	NAME of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class, and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of the Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if uncompleted.
PARISH OF MANCHESTER, MANDEVILLE DISTRICT:				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
1836:						
26 Nov. -	John Bradford -	pr. male app. -	Miss Turnbull -	- - -	50 3 4	
10 Dec. -	Catherine Baker -	fem. non-pr. app. -	Waltham -	25 6 8		
21 Jan. -	Richard Learmond -	male pr. app. -	Marshall's Pen -	17 17 10		
28 -	Charles Hill Pitter -	male pr. ap., carp. -	Moreland -	98 10 4		
11 March -	Thomas Smith -	male non-pr. app. -	Wickware -	34 7 3		
-	Mary Ann White -	female pr. app. -	Wickware -	- - -	67 15 7	-- says it too high.
18 March -	Henry Palmer -	male non-pr. app. -	Mrs. Maunder -	16 18 10		
8 April -	Amelia Lewis -	female pr. app. -	Barrossa -	- - -	25 15 4	
-	Frances Lewis -	- ditto -	May Day -	- - -	58 17 9	-- valued on 16th September for 32l. 2s. 3d.
-	John Elby -	male non-pr. app. -	Old England -	35 - -		
-	John Isaacs -	- ditto -	Miss Turnbull -	- - -	22 15 -	
29 April -	William Wolff -	m. pr. app., mason -	Albion -	- - -	88 9 6	
-	John Brooks -	male prædial app. -	ditto -	- - -	75 16 8	-- says it is too high.
20 May -	Francis Griffith -	- ditto -	John Griffith -	43 14 7		
27 -	Sally Thomas -	female non-pr. app. -	Waltham -	12 3 9		
-	Sarah Brown -	female prædial app. -	Panalodge -	- - -	40 2 3	-- one justice refused to deduct one-third; two against him.
10 June -	Edward Powell -	male pr. app., carp. -	Mount Nelson -	- - -	89 6 -	
-	William M'Donald -	- ditto -	- ditto -	- - -	- - -	-- disagreed; local justice valued too high.
-	Robert Wint -	male non-pr. app. -	Brockenhurst -	15 11 2		
-	Sarah Ann Baker -	female prædial app. -	Brumalia -	11 3 2		
24 June -	Isabella Baker -	female non-pr. app. -	James Pommel -	10 11 -		
-	Eliza Baker -	female prædial app. -	- ditto -	26 18 1		
1 July -	John M'Farlane -	male pr. app., carp. -	Caledonia -	- - -	80 4 5	
-	James M'Donald -	male non-pr. app. -	Mount Nelson -	10 - -		
8 July -	Charlotte Gordon -	female non-pr. app. -	May Day -	11 11 3		
29 -	William Sebbit -	male prædial app. -	Bel Reitero -	- - -	55 10 -	-- says it is too high.
-	George Lewis -	m. pr. app., cooper -	Roxbro Castle -	- - -	69 11 8	
-	Joseph Hyman -	male prædial app. -	Chevetiegh -	- - -	50 - -	-- says it is too high.
-	Walter Stewart -	- ditto -	Brussels -	- - -	40 13 4	
15 July -	John Harrison -	m. pr. app., mason -	W. T. Bawn -	62 - -		
TOTAL - £.				431 13 11	815 - 10	
						J. W. Grant, Special Justice.
PARISH OF ST. GEORGE & PORTLAND:						
1836:						
7 Nov. -	Mary Woodhouse -	female non-prædial -	Elysium -	11 13 4		
1837:						
26 Jan. -	Catherine Batterson -	- ditto -	Mount Pleasant -	14 - -		
31 -	John Harrison -	male pr. app., carp. -	Est. Harrison -	93 6 8		
-	Thomas Johnson -	male non-prædial -	- - -	9 - -		
-	Peter Mann -	- - -	- - -	6 - -		
-	Catherine Brown -	female non-prædial -	Alexander Lecky -	20 - -		
27 Feb. -	Florence Fleming -	- ditto -	Elysium -	12 - -		
-	James Grant -	male pr. app., carp. -	Caen Wood -	68 - -		
1 March -	Susan Christopher -	female prædial app. -	Spring Garden -	27 6 8		
13 -	John Baugh -	male - ditto -	John Brown -	22 4 4		
3 April -	Mary Ann Anderson -	female ditto -	J. B. Anderson -	- - -	56 - -	
11 -	Georgiana Maddison -	female non-prædial -	Elysium -	20 - -		
-	Peter Mawson -	m. pr. app., mason -	- ditto -	70 - -		
17 April -	Margaret Hall -	female non-prædial -	Guahinalla -	21 6 8		
6 July -	Alexander Stewart -	male prædial app. -	Elysium -	70 - -		
15 -	James Cummings -	male non-prædial -	Guahinalla -	16 - -		
TOTAL - £.				480 17 8	56 - -	
						William Hewitt, Special Justice.
PARISH OF ST. CATHERINE, LOWER DISTRICT: from 1 December 1836 to 1 August 1837:				Value awarded.	Paid.	Not Paid.
1837:						
7 Jan. -	George Mitchell -	prædial -	Taylor's Caymanas -	35 - -	paid.	
1 Feb. -	Richard Walsh -	non-prædial -	Farm Pen -	50 - -	- -	not paid.
-	Joan Taylor -	- ditto, domestic -	Sadler's Wells -	24 - -	paid.	
						G. Ouseley Higgins, Special Justice.

SLAVERY IN THE BRITISH COLONIES.

103

DATE of Valuation.	NAME of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class, and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of the Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.			Sum Unpaid.			Remarks, if unconcluded.
PARISH OF ST. ELIZABETH, DISTRICT SANTA CRUZ:				£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	
1836:										
November	No valuations.									
5 Dec.	William Wilson -	male pr. attached -	Torrington Castle	58	5	10½				
—	Peter Bonneck -	- male pr. attached, cooper.	Kensington -	70	—	—				
1 Dec.	Emily Sutherland -	female pr. unattach.	Emmaus - -	50	—	—				
—	Priscilla Mullings -	- ditto - -	ditto - -	21	—	—				
—	Ellen Rickets -	female non-prædial	Mary P. Baylis -	19	—	—				
1837:										
3 January	Thomas Williams -	male non-prædial -	John Earle -	32	11	8				
—	Matthew Montague -	male pr. attached -	Mount Olivet -	49	8	9				
—	Elizabeth Forbes -	female non-prædial	Stanmore Hill -	18	—	—				
7 January	Eleanor Green -	- ditto - -	Roseberry -	21	12	6				
—	Anne Allwood -	- ditto - -	Northampton -	19	10	—				
—	Mary Anne Barton -	- ditto - -	Dorothy Bennett	21	—	—				
7 February	Martha Cranston -	female pr. attached	Norfolk - -	—	—	—	34	11	8	
—	Mary Nembhard -	female non-prædial	Kensington -	24	—	—				
—	Susan Mullings -	- ditto - -	Roseberry -	20	3	4				
—	Reuben Daly -	male pr. unattached	ditto - -	—	—	—	67	2	6	
4 February	John La Cruz -	male non-prædial -	Berlin - -	26	10	—				
—	Frances Gale -	female pr. attached	- J. B. Bent, exor. of Susan E. Bent.	36	13	4				
March	No valuations.									
April	Caroline Watson -	- ditto - -	John M'Clymont	22	4	2				
—	Amelia Farquharson -	- ditto - -	Potsdam - -	32	—	—				
—	John Wilson -	male ditto - -	- J. Barton, guard. to F. M. Powell.	43	6	8				
1 April	Thomas J. Harriott -	male non-prædial -	Henry Bent -	16	—	—				
—	William Turner -	- male pr. attached, carpenter.	Montpelier -	—	—	—	60	1	—	
May	William Blake -	- male pr. attached, head stableman.	Fellowship Pen	—	—	—	—	—	—	- - unconcluded, the sum, 97 £. 10 s., insisted on by the local magistrates being deemed excessive by the special magistrates.
—	Elizabeth Blackman -	female non-prædial	Rachael Tavarez	10	13	4				
—	Sarah Watson -	female pr. attached	Eliza Townshend	—	—	—	40	—	—	
13 May	James Wint - -	male non-prædial	John Griffith -	21	6	8				
15 — -	James Daly - -	male pr. unattached	- - Dr. Simon F. M'Donald.	53	6	8				
2 June	Eliza Daly - -	female pr. unattach.	Emmaus - -	31	19	8				
2 — -	Sarah Davis -	female non-prædial	- M. Myers, adm. of S. Roy, dec.	20	—	—				
16 — -	Letitia Mitchell -	female pr. attached	Malvern Hill -	—	—	—	37	10	—	
—	Amelia Williams -	female non-prædial	- - Fred. Simpson & Ann R. Simpson.	15	—	—				
—	Henry Simpson -	male pr. attached -	Jas. N. Simpson	24	6	8				
8 July	Catherine Williams	- - female prædial unattached.	- M. Myers, adm. of S. Roy, dec.	35	—	—				
14 — -	Margaret Whitehead	female non-prædial	Berlin - -	15	—	—				
—	Mary Ann Facey -	female pr. attached	Northampton -	15	6	8				
21 July	Robert Smith -	male pr. unattached	Robert Muschett	31	6	3				
—	Robert Turner -	- - male pr. unattached, carpenter.	Jacob Morais -	60	—	—				
24 July	Robert Simpson -	- - male prædial unattached.	- M. Myers, adm. of S. Roy, dec.	16	—	—				
—	Dorothy Simpson -	female pr. unattach.	ditto - -	10	13	4				
28 July	Alexander Edwards	male pr. attached -	- Friendship Plantation.	55	—	—				
—	Rebecca Barrett -	female pr. unattach.	Emmaus - -	39	—	—				
—	Diana Service -	- ditto - -	ditto - -	39	—	—				
—	Amelia Brown -	female pr. attached	Kensington -	30	13	4				
—	Minerva - -	female non-prædial	Susan Pennycask	15	—	—				
—	Anne Wedderburn	female pr. attached	Northampton -	—	—	—	39	—	—	
—	Thomas Johnstone	- male pr. attached, cooper.	Mount Olivet -	70	—	—				
—	Mary M'Crea -	female non-prædial	Roseberry -	12	—	—				
—	Fanny M'Daniel -	- ditto - -	ditto - -	9	6	8				
—	Noble M'Daniel -	male non prædial	ditto - -	10	13	4				
31 July	Sally - -	female non-prædial	John Burton -	6	—	—				
—	Catherine Smith -	- ditto - -	John Ashman -	14	—	—				
TOTAL - - £.				1,271	18	10½	278	5	2	

James Harris,
Special Justice.

PAPERS RELATIVE TO THE ABOLITION OF

DATE of Valuation.	NAME of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class, and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of the Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if unconcluded.
PARISH OF TRELAWNY, NORTH-EASTERN DISTRICT:				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
1836:						
2 Nov. -	Margaret Scott -	female non-pr. app.	Rev. R. Stoney -	21 - -		
—	Mary Sympton -	- ditto - -	Miss Eason -	33 10 -		
—	Eliza Grant -	female prædial app.	Mount Pleasant -	- - -	45 - -	considered too high.
—	Ann Sympton -	- ditto - -	Bengale Estate -	- - -	37 10 -	
9 Dec. -	Mary Gordon -	- ditto - -	Mount Carpax -	- - -	27 - -	
—	Mary A. Young -	female non-pr. app.	Braço Estate -	23 3 4		
1837:						
1 April -	Sophia Buchannon -	female prædial app.	Georgie Estate -	30 - -		
—	Charlotte Norris -	female non-pr. app.	Harmony Hall -	16 - -		
—	Mary A. Tom -	- ditto - -	- ditto - -	20 - -		
—	Sarah Murdock -	- ditto - -	Stewart Castle -	16 - -		
—	Richard White -	- - male præd. app., carpenter.	Miss J. White -	36 - -		
29 April -	Edward Grant -	- ditto - -	Brampton Bryan -	- - -	78 - -	- - has no objec- tion to the amount; promises to pay. considered too high.
—	Catharine Sympton -	female prædial app.	Lancaster -	- - -	45 - -	- ditto.
—	Elizabeth Williams -	- ditto - -	- ditto - -	- - -	40 - -	- ditto.
—	Elizabeth Tom -	female non-pr. app.	Harmony Hall -	20 - -		
—	Ann Christie -	female prædial app.	Mount Carpax -	- - -	53 - -	- ditto.
—	Mary A. Stewart -	- ditto - -	Harmony Hall -	- - -	53 - -	- ditto.
—	Catherine Barton -	female non-pr. app.	Buo Beuno -	12 - -		
27 May -	Susan Culley -	female prædial app.	Lancaster -	- - -	50 - -	- ditto.
—	James Craig -	- - male præd. app., plumber and black- smith.	Nightingale Grove -	- - -	95 - -	- - agreed to pay the amount.
—	Edward Gordon -	- - male præd. app., carpenter.	- - Cottage, Mr. Norris, carpenter	- - -	75 - -	considered too high.
TOTAL - - £.				227 13 4	598 10 -	
						C. Hawkins, Special Justice.
PARISH OF PORT ROYAL, WINDWARD DISTRICT:						
1836:						
24 Nov. -	Mary Jones -	female non-pr. app.	Mochó -	26 13 4		
—	Ann Amelia King -	- ditto - -	Drummond Castle -	16 13 4		
7 Dec. -	Julian Empty -	female prædial app.	Clifton -	- - -	52 7 1	
—	Eleanor Richards -	- ditto - -	Mochó -	43 16 8		
8 Dec. -	Letitia Brown -	female non-pr. app.	Bloxburgh -	32 - -		
1837:						
11 Jan. -	Agnes M'Gowan -	- ditto - -	Green Valley -	22 6 3		
3 Feb. -	Susannah Gregory -	- ditto - -	Galloway House -	10 13 4		
—	Letitia Hylton -	- ditto - -	Bloxburgh -	32 - -		
14 Feb. -	Ann Wheeler -	- ditto - -	Lower Lucky Valley -	24 - -		
20 Feb. -	Johanna Hylton -	female prædial app.	Bloxburgh -	39 15 7½		
12 April -	Eleanor Yates -	female non-pr. app.	Flamstead -	20 - -		
17 April -	Agnes Jackson -	- ditto - -	Belle Vue -	- - -	25 10 -	
—	Frederick Jackson -	male ditto - -	- ditto - -	- - -	25 10 -	
—	Louisa Jackson -	female ditto - -	- ditto - -	- - -	25 10 -	
—	Mary Gibb -	- ditto - -	- ditto - -	- - -	25 10 -	
—	Elizabeth Jackson -	- ditto - -	- ditto - -	- - -	22 16 8	
3 May -	Phillis Chamberlain -	female prædial app.	Halberstadt -	- - -	46 4 7	
—	Jessy Brown -	- ditto - -	- ditto - -	- - -	46 4 7	
—	Joseph Brown -	male ditto - -	- ditto - -	52 - -		
—	Lydia Richards Weise -	female ditto - -	Lower Lucky Valley -	43 6 8		
—	Douglass Williams -	male ditto - -	- ditto - -	- - -	63 7 6	
20 June -	Eliza Williams -	female ditto - -	Trafalgar -	13 6 8		
11 July -	John Walker -	male præd., mason	Chesterfield -	78 1 8		
25 July -	Isabella M'Fie -	female prædial app.	Clifton -	- - -	46 10 -	
TOTAL - - £.				554 13 6½	379 10 5	
						C. Hamilton, Special Justice.

DATE of Valuation.	NAME of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of the Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if Unconcluded.
PARISH OF HANOVER, LEEWARD DISTRICT :				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
1836 :						
3 Dec. -	Betsy Glen -	female non-prædial	Pell River -	17 - -		
-	John Campbell -	male prædial app.	Mount Pleasant -	- - -	34 - -	
1837 :						
1 Feb. -	Mary Atkinson -	female non-prædial	Saxhan -	15 - -		
5 -	Edward Zinke -	male prædial	F. B. Zinke -	- - -	45 - -	- was valued again on the 1st of April for 62 l.; objected to.
9 April -	John Wateridge -	male prædial app.	Industry -	54 - -		
3 May -	Thomas Fielde -	male non-prædial	Campbelton -	7 5 -		
-	Eliza Pile -	female non-prædial	Rockspring -	16 10 -		
			TOTAL - - £.	109 15 -	79 - -	
						J. R. Hulme, Special Justice.
PARISH OF ST. CATHERINE, DISTRICT OF SANSISH TOWN :						
1836 :						
2 Nov. -	Sukey Lewin -	female pr. attached	Cumberland Pen -	- - -	87 13 4	
-	Henry Williams -	male pr. attached	- ditto -	- - -	87 13 4	
4 Dec. -	William Matthews Green.	male non-prædial	Henry Pinell Matthews.	- - -	26 2 6	
1837 :						
8 Jan. -	Mary Thomas -	female non-prædial	Isaac Dias -	20 - -		
3 Feb. -	Patience Kennedy -	- ditto -	Mary Kennedy -	19 - -		
-	Frances Jane Saa -	- ditto -	William Saa -	15 - -		
-	Charlotte Clare -	- ditto -	- ditto -	- - -	16 - -	
7 Feb. -	Francis Cross -	male non-prædial, carpenter.	Juliana Rowe -	43 6 8		
-	Joseph Davies -	male non-prædial	Letitia Thomas -	19 2 6		
3 Feb. -	Ann Singley -	female non-prædial	Evilina Wilkins -	- - -	17 - -	
7 Feb. -	Mary Howard Newill -	- ditto -	Ann M. Newill	- - -	- - -	-- released by free consent.
-	Sarah Thomas -	- ditto -		- - -	- - -	
-	John Thomson -	male non-prædial	Thomas Edbury	18 12 3		
7 March -	Louisa Frankson -	female non-prædial	M'Dowell Grant	20 4 2		
-	Robert Graham -	male non-prædial	Beacon Hill Plan- tation.	- - -	85 8 9	
-	James Palmer -	male pr. attached, mason				
9 March -	William Johnson -	male non-prædial	Esther Martins	17 7 -		
1 March -	Rose T. Willocks -	female non-prædial	Ann Austin -	16 - -		
9 April -	Jane Allen -	- ditto -	John Grant -	14 16 8		
7 April -	Dorothy Forbes -	- ditto -	Grace Halhead -	21 6 8		
5 May -	Maria Morris -	- ditto -	Ann Newell -	13 - -		
4 May -	Catherine Henry -	- ditto -	J. Bagnall Burrows	13 11 3		
1 May -	Juliana Pacifico -	- ditto -	Samuel Groom -	16 6 3		
7 June -	Ann Wildman -	- ditto -	Richard Barrett	- - -	15 13 4	
3 July -	Henrietta Burrell -	- ditto -	E. Kilbre Jackson	10 11 8		
2 July -	Henry Nelson -	male non-prædial, brickmaker.	William Coulson, bricklayer.	9 - -		
-	Jane M'Donald -	female non-prædial	Great Salt pond Pen.	12 - -		
			TOTAL - - £.	299 6 -	335 11 3	20 l. paid. 7 l. unpaid.
						Richard Hiley, Special Justice.

PARISH OF WESTMORELAND, WINDWARD AND MOUNTAIN DISTRICT :						
1836 :						
2 Nov. -	Margaret Clarke -	female pr. labourer	Enfuto Pen -	50 - -		When the amount of the sum award- ed is not paid, it generally arises from the appren- tice not having the amount, or is of opinion that the valuation is too high.
-	James Hamilton -	male non-prædial	Bog Estate -	22 10 -		
-	Rachael Toot -	female non-prædial	Grandvale -	15 - -		
-	Caroline Wade -	- ditto -	- ditto -	15 - -		
9 Nov. -	John Parkins -	male pr. labourer	Mount Tarsay -	- - -	36 13 4	
-	Robert Morris -	male pr. head carp.	Bog Estate -	- - -	96 - -	
-	David Langer -	male non-prædial	Grandvale -	20 - -		
1 Dec. -	Mary Gale -	female pr. labourer	Glanburnie -	- - -	68 - -	
-	Olive Darkin -	- ditto -	- ditto -	- - -	52 - -	
-	Anne Morris -	- ditto -	Clifden -	- - -	46 - -	
1837 :						
9 Jan. -	Nicholas Blake -	male pr. labourer	- ditto -	35 - -		
9 Feb. -	Bung Heming -	female pr. labourer	Akendown -	21 6 8		

(continued)

DATE of Valuation.	NAME of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class, and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of the Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if Unconcluded.
PARISH OF WESTMORELAND, WINDWARD AND MOUNTAIN DISTRICT— <i>continued.</i>						
1837:				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
1 March	Charlotte Miles	female pr. labourer	Haddo - -	19 12 -		When the amount of the sum awarded is not paid, it gene- rally arises from the apprentice not hav- ing the amount, or is of opinion that the valuation is too high.
8 April	Augusta Scott	- ditto - - -	A. Kendown -	- - -	60 - -	
—	Amelia Galant	female non-pr. -	Mt. Edgecombe	- - -	9 - -	
14 April	John Wright	male pr. head carp.	Glanburnie -	- - -	84 - -	
—	Henry Gale	male pr. lab. & mason	A. Kendown -	- - -	83 - -	
20 May	James Pinnock	male pr. labourer -	New Shafton -	- - -	50 - -	
8 April	Christian Pringle	female pr. labourer	Hopewell - -	50 - -		
20 July	Edward Campbell	male pr. labourer -	Mt. Stewart -	60 - -		
TOTAL - - £.				298 8 8	584 13 4	
						<i>Dan. W. Kelly, Special Magistrate.</i>
UPPER DISTRICT OF THE PORT-ROYAL MOUNTAINS AND ST. DAVID:						
26 January	Robert Dewhurst	male pr. attached -	Mount Hybla -	44 10 4		
9 March	Betsy Kelly	female pr. attach. -	Mount Faraway	- - -	46 15 7	too high.
—	Jane Richards	- ditto - - -	- - -	- - -	51 5 9	ditto.
—	Bobby Thomas	male pr. attached -	- - -	- - -	19 5 1	ditto.
26 May	Johanna M'Larty	female pr. attach. -	Chester Vale -	22 10 4		
—	Ann Garnett	- ditto - - -	Robertsfield -	35 17 10		
—	Mary Stewart	fem. non-pr. domestic	- - -	27 8 1		
—	Sarah Rattray	female pr. attach. -	Clydesdale -	- - -	35 17 10	has no funds.
7 June	Sarah Barnett	- ditto - - -	Abbey Green -	- - -	42 - -	has not the money.
27 - -	Phoebe Duffus	- ditto - - -	Industry - -	- - -	44 4 -	too high.
28 July	Elliston Walker	male pr. attached -	Chester Vale -	32 - -		
—	Mary Ann Purvell	female pr. attached	- - -	15 6 8		
—	Marg. Brackenridge	- ditto - - -	Resource - -	46 - -		
TOTAL - - £.				223 12 5	239 8 3	
						<i>H. Kent, Special Justice.</i>
PARISH OF ST. MARY, WINDWARD DISTRICT:						
1836:						
1 Dec.	Alex. Hamilton	male pr. mason att.	Aleppo - -	110 - -		
—	Henry Davis	male pr. unattach.	Essex - -	78 9 4		
—	Helen Ross	female non-prædial	Richmond -	25 - -		
—	William Reid	male pr. carp. att.	Hopewell -	95 6 8		
—	Nelly Davidson	female prædial att.	Orange River	- - -	25 - -	considered too high.
2 Feb.	Sammy Debates	male prædial attach.	Dee Side - -	- - -	35 - -	- - abandoned, no change taking place, as expected in attorney.
—	Robt. Walker	male prædial attach.	Orange River	- - -	75 - -	- - no money forth- coming.
2 March	Gerard Green	male pr. unattach.	Leinster - -	65 - -		
—	James Bowley	male prædial attach.	Richmond -	45 - -		
—	Elizab. Grandison	female non-prædial	Orange River	22 10 -		
—	Eleanor Thomas	- ditto - - -	Luna - - -	- - -	- - -	- - not discharged, valueless.
—	Edward Archer	male prædial attach.	Richmond Hill	- - -	35 - -	- - valuation en- tered on in antici- pation of a removal, not persisted in.
—	Patty Robinson	female pr. attached	- ditto - -	- - -	32 - -	
—	Sophia Robinson	- ditto - - -	- ditto - -	- - -	40 - -	
—	Jane H. Reynolds	female non-prædial	- ditto - -	- - -	22 13 4	
7 April	Susan White	- ditto - - -	Petersfield -	18 13 4		
—	Duncan Campbell	male non-prædial -	- ditto - -	17 - -		
4 May	James Edwards	- ditto - - -	- ditto - -	- - -	- - -	- - this and the 7 succeeding cases not concluded, the local justice re- fusing to deduct one-third of gross.
—	William Gray	m. pr. unatt. mason	- ditto - -	- - -	- - -	
—	William Bennett	m. pr. unatt. carpt.	- ditto - -	- - -	- - -	
—	Charles Byfield	male pr. unattached	- ditto - -	- - -	- - -	
—	Anne Bloomfield	female pr. unattach.	- ditto - -	- - -	- - -	
—	Louisa Bloomfield	- ditto - - -	- ditto - -	- - -	- - -	
—	Eleanor Mitchell	- ditto - - -	- ditto - -	- - -	- - -	
—	Eleanor Thomas	- ditto - - -	- ditto - -	- - -	- - -	
—	Elsie Banwell	female non-prædial	- ditto - -	- - -	10 13 4	considered too high.
—	Harriet Hamilton	- ditto - - -	Richmond -	- - -	- - -	- - refused to allow one-third.
—	Rosiana Langley	female pr. attached	- ditto - -	45 - -		
TOTAL - - £.				541 19 4	275 6 8	
						<i>R. Sydney Lambert, Spécial Justice.</i>

DATE of Valuation.	NAME of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class, and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of the Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if Unconcluded.
PARISH OF ST. ANNE, WINDWARD DISTRICT :				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
1836 :						
9 Nov. -	Cecilia Richards -	female prædial -	Mrs. Mitchell -	45 - -		
4 - -	Rebecca Stevens -	- ditto - -	Pleasant Valley -	22 5 -		
- -	Elizabeth Richards	- ditto - -	Dr. Ball - -	- - -	48 17 10	
21 Nov. -	William Rae -	male prædial -	Unity Valley -	48 18 4		
24 - -	Mary McKean -	female non-prædial	Grierpark -	16 13 4		
27 - -	John Thomas -	male prædial -	Gibraltar - -	60 13 4		
29 - -	Eliz. Anne Gordon	female non-prædial	Grierpark -	30 11 2		
5 Dec. -	William Levers -	male prædial -	Attempt - -	48 18 4		
- -	Patrick Tirrell -	- ditto - -	Unity Valley -	53 15 10		
19 Dec. -	Susannah Smith -	female prædial -	Mr. Simpson -	33 14 1		
30 - -	James Johnson -	male non-prædial -	Mrs. Johnson -	34 - -		
1837 :						
30 January	James Wilson -	male non-prædial -	Schwallenburgh	14 - -		
- -	Charles Lewis -	male prædial -	River Head -	46 13 4		
- -	George McKenzie -	- ditto - -	- ditto - -	46 13 4		
- -	Thomas Johnson -	male pr., carpenter	Retirement -	64 5 -		
- -	Thomas Robertson	- ditto - -	- ditto - -	58 6 8		
- -	Robert McDowall -	male prædial -	Attempt - -	46 13 4		
15 Feb. -	Phœbe Bristol -	female non-prædial	Bachelor's Hall	24 - -		
- -	Patty Graham -	female prædial -	Attempt - -	27 6 8		
27 Feb. -	Lewis Ashmeade -	male non-prædial -	Haddon - -	21 5 -		
- -	Isabella Taaffe -	female non-prædial	Miss Lowe -	12 5 -		
13 March	Beckford Sharpe -	male prædial -	Unity Valley -	49 10 -		
- -	George Davis -	- ditto - -	- ditto - -	49 10 -		
- -	Mary Howard -	female prædial -	- ditto - -	- - -	40 10 -	
- -	Sarah Anderson -	- ditto - -	Faith Pen -	11 5 10		
- -	Susan Bryan -	female non-prædial	Mosely Hall -	14 19 5		
- -	Eliza Jackson -	- ditto - -	Miss Llewellyn -	18 6 7		
15 March	Charles Smith -	male prædial -	Bradfield - -	- - -	45 - -	
3 April -	Prince William -	- ditto - -	Mrs. Fergus -	47 6 8		
- -	Dorothy James -	female prædial -	Grierfield -	13 6 8		
- -	Jane Anderson -	- ditto - -	Mr. Anderson -	- - -	26 13 4	
8 April -	Charles Darby -	male pr., sawyer -	Mount Lebanon	- - -	65 16 10	
- -	Mary Darby -	female prædial -	- ditto - -	- - -	46 1 8	
- -	Dorinda Hutton -	- ditto - -	- ditto - -	- - -	22 4 8	
13 March	Thomas Newell -	male prædial -	Unity Valley -	49 10 -		
	(omitted)					
10 April -	Henry Smallwood	- ditto - -	Dr. Ball - -	37 6 2		
- -	Sarah Somers -	female prædial -	- ditto - -	26 6 8		
- -	Charlotte Marshall	female non-prædial	Mrs. Cocking -	- - -	17 4 6	
17 April -	Edward Martin -	male prædial -	Mr. Martin -	- - -	49 16 8	
- -	James Williams -	- ditto - -	Phoenix Park -	- - -	51 3 2	
27 April -	Aurora Ouffroy -	female prædial -	Little River -	- - -	17 6 8	
1 May -	Susan Hall -	female non-prædial	Mrs. Martin -	17 4 6		
- -	Cecilia Brown -	female prædial -	River Head -	- - -	23 16 8	
22 May -	Elizabeth Finlay -	- ditto - -	Faith Pen -	40 - -		
29 - -	Elizabeth Linton -	- ditto - -	Woodberry -	- - -	46 8 9	
- -	Julina Davis -	- ditto - -	- ditto - -	- - -	27 10 -	
- -	Edward Stevenson	male prædial -	- ditto - -	- - -	50 13 4	
- -	Susan Gray -	female prædial -	Mr. Hurst -	- - -	41 3 4	
5 June -	Samuel H. Edwards	male prædial -	Halifax - -	12 13 4		
- -	Eliza Bailey -	female non-prædial	- ditto - -	5 8 9		
- -	William Moffat -	male prædial -	Ramble - -	- - -	42 18 6	
13 June -	Mary Ann Anderson	female prædial -	Miss Arthur -	- - -	41 13 4	
- -	Henry Nugent -	male prædial -	- ditto - -	- - -	20 - -	
- -	Henry Ashmeade -	- ditto - -	Woodberry -	- - -	47 18 4	
19 June -	James Ellis -	- ditto - -	Faith Pen -	- - -	47 18 4	
3 July -	Constantia Symonds	female non-prædial	Whitehall -	20 4 7		
- -	James Forsyth -	male prædial -	Faith Pen -	47 5 7		
17 July -	James Anderson -	- ditto - -	Schwallenburgh	- - -	30 - -	
- -	Sarah James -	female prædial -	- ditto - -	- - -	40 - -	
- -	Sarah Newell -	- ditto - -	Unity Valley -	10 - -		
- -	Dorothy Thomas -	- ditto - -	Faith Pen -	42 10 -		
27 July -	William Smith -	male prædial -	Woodstock -	- - -	40 - -	
- -	Sarah Nembhard -	female prædial -	- ditto - -	- - -	28 - -	
TOTAL - - £.				1,267 12 6	957 14 11	
						Henry Laidlaw, Special Justice.

DATE of Valuation.	NAME of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class, and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of the Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if Unconcluded.
CENTRAL WINDWARD DISTRICT, TRELAWNY :						
1836:	St. Thomas-in-the East :			£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
5 Nov. -	Jane Mitchell -	female prædial -	Coley -	42 13 4		
-	George Ellis -	male non-prædial -	Petersfield -	17 - -		
12 Nov. -	Eliza Johnson -	female prædial -	Georgia -	- - -	60 - -	
22 Nov. -	Susan Rankin -	- ditto -	Newfield -	36 13 4		
-	James Brown -	male pr., carpenter -	ditto -	60 - -		
26 Nov. -	Francis M'Lean -	male prædial -	Gosbrand Hall -	- - -	60 - -	
-	Mary Harris -	female prædial -	Buckingham -	44 - -		
-	Regina Elmslie -	female non-prædial	Island Head -	26 13 4		
1837:						
4 Feb. -	Ann Jackson -	female non-prædial	Petersfield -	8 - -		
-	Jane Jackson -	- ditto -	ditto -	8 - -		
18 Feb. -	Richard Francis -	male prædial -	Duckworth -	45 10 -		
-	Richard Spencer -	- ditto -	ditto -	27 16 8		
-	Isabella Maltes -	female non-prædial	ditto -	15 16 8		
4 March	Betsy Darby -	female prædial -	Buckingham -	- - -	32 - -	
-	Thomas Russell -	male prædial -	ditto -	- - -	27 16 8	
-	Letitia White -	female prædial -	Gosbrand Hall -	- - -	48 - -	
-	James Stewart -	male prædial -	Serge Island -	32 - -		
11 March	Elsy Brown -	female non-prædial	Georgia -	16 - -		
-	William Read -	male prædial -	Coley -	16 - -		
-	Kitty Chisholm -	female prædial -	Prospect Pen -	- - -	28 - -	
Trelawney :						
13 May -	Jane Walker -	female prædial -	Mr. R. Caderhead -	32 - -		
-	Sarah Wyat -	- ditto -	Jock's Lodge -	27 10 -		
10 June -	Frances Henry -	- ditto -	Hyde Hall -	30 - -		
17 June -	George Meats -	male prædial -	Mr. Meats, Falmouth -	10 - -		
-	Richard Oliver -	male non-prædial -	Steelefield -	10 - -		
-	James Marlow -	- ditto -	Mrs. Marlow, Rock -	12 8 4		
24 June -	Catherine Lottery -	female non-prædial	Cambridge -	12 - -		
-	Edmund Burke -	male non-prædial -	Retirement -	15 - -		
1 July -	Susan Burley -	female prædial -	Spring -	- - -	37 3 4	
8 July -	Susan Warburton -	- ditto -	ditto -	30 - -		
-	James Ellis -	male non-prædial -	Mr. Scarlett, St. James -	15 - -		
15 July -	Phillis Burnett -	female prædial -	Stewart Castle -	34 13 4		
22 July -	William Marlow -	male non-prædial -	Mrs. Marlow, Rock -	11 15 7		
-	Fanny Sharpe -	female non-prædial	Mrs. Hodges, Falmouth -	9 - -		
-	Jane Sharpe -	- ditto -	- ditto -	9 - -		
-	William Ward -	male non-pr., carp.	Mr. Fosbrooke -	12 - -		
TOTAL - - £.				716 10 7	293 - -	
						Edmund B. Lyon, Special Justice.
PARISH OF ST. ELIZABETH DISTRICT :						
1836:						
Nov. -	No valuations.					
3 Dec. -	Letitia Bennett -	female prædial -	Happy Retreat -	22 - -		
-	David Mitchell -	male non-prædial -	Longhill -	30 - -		
18 Dec. -	Joseph Hewitt -	male prædial -	Salt Spring -	47 - -		
1837:						
14 Jan. -	Robert Taylor -	- ditto -	Pleasant Hill -	37 10 -		
-	Ellenor Wright -	female prædial -	Black River -	38 - -		
-	Sophia Jackson -	female non-prædial	Blackburn -	21 6 8		
-	Catherine Jackson -	female prædial -	Ashton -	- - -	39 - -	
-	Sam. - - - -	male prædial -	ditto -	- - -	100 - -	
28 Jan. -	Archibald Alboyn -	male non-prædial -	Atterjoy -	12 - -		
18 Feb. -	John Malcolm -	- ditto -	Black River -	30 - -		
25 Feb. -	Francis Upperman -	- ditto -	ditto -	25 - -		
11 March	Elizabeth Swabey -	female non-prædial	Fuller's Wood -	21 6 8		
-	Amelia Winter -	- ditto -	Rectory -	24 17 5		
1 April -	Mary Roberts -	female prædial -	Fonthill -	28 - -		
13 May -	Margaret Forbes -	female non-prædial	Salt Spring -	16 - -		
-	Sarah Moore -	- ditto -	Malvern Hill -	16 - -		
June -	No valuations.					
1 July -	Sarah Robertson -	female non-prædial	Black River -	16 - -		
From the 1st to the 31st July 1837, no valuations.						
TOTAL - - £.				385 - 9	139 - -	
						Thomas Matthews, Special Justice.

DATE of Valuation.	NAME of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class, and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of the Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if Unconcluded.
DISTRICT OF ST. DOROTHY'S, &c.:				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
1836:						
2 Nov. -	Eliza Ellis -	female prædial -	Bushfield -	20 - -		
6 - -	Richard Hayle -	male, carpenter -	Chateau -	95 - -		
—	William Bunn -	- ditto -	Longville -	80 - -		
3 Dec. -	Sarah Cokely -	female prædial -	Bushy Park -	36 - -		
7 - -	Robert Gett -	male non-prædial -	Content -	5 - -		
1837:						
8 March -	L. Dawkins -	male, tradesman -	Cocoa Walk -	87 - -		
—	Henry Francis -	male prædial -	Wood Hall -	90 - -		
4 April -	Eliza Malcolm -	female non-prædial -	Cherry Garden -	16 - -		
4 - -	Jane Reid -	female prædial -	Cocoa Walk -	53 - -		
5 July -	Frances Walker -	female non-prædial -	O. H. Bay -	10 - -		
TOTAL - - £.				487 - -		
						Alex. N. M'Leod, Special Justice.
PARISH OF KINGSTON, DISTRICT OF KINGSTON:						
1836:						
0 Nov. -	Eliza Patteson -	- - female non-pr., domestic.	James Gyles -	20 4 2		
—	James Davis -	male ditto -	John Fowles -	- - -	25 5 -	
—	Margaret Rennell -	female ditto -	M. M'Kenzie -	10 3 4		
1 Nov. -	Eliza Ennis -	- ditto -	John M'Cartney -	20 4 2		
2 - -	Julian Da Costa -	- ditto -	Julian Alberga -	10 - -		
4 - -	Julian Burke -	female prædial -	Millicent Kenny -	- - -	40 - -	
8 - -	A. Saunders -	male non-prædial -	Mary Ellis -	- - -	29 3 4	
—	Ann Ferguson -	- - female non-pr., domestic.	Mary Duquesny -	- - -	18 - -	
—	Flora Muir -	female non-pr., ditto	Alexander Scott -	19 15 7		
5 Dec. -	Elizabeth -	- ditto -	Michel Samuels -	- - -	19 2 3	
3 - -	Sarah Wood -	- ditto -	Margt. M'Queen -	- - -	9 2 6	
9 - -	Sarah Thomson -	- ditto -	Ann E. Carrol -	22 15 7		
4 - -	Robert Rees -	male ditto -	Miss O'Neill -	22 15 7		
1837:						
6 January -	Ann Grant -	female ditto -	Mr. Brydon -	22 4 7		
4 - -	Catherine Cockling -	- ditto -	Mrs. D. Clarke -	13 - -		
1 Feb. -	Thomas M'Cartney -	male ditto -	Mrs. Johnston -	- - -	36 - -	
—	Jane Bernard -	female ditto -	Spalding, M. D. -	17 6 8		
8 Feb. -	John Smith -	non-pr., bricklayer -	Sarah Styles -	- - -	20 - -	
9 - -	Alexander M'Lean -	male, domestic -	Lachlan M'Lean -	8 10 -		
—	Casimiere -	male non-pr., baker -	Bernard Prière -	- - -	33 - -	
0 Feb. -	Paulina -	female domestic -	A. Branday -	21 - -		
5 - -	Charles -	male ditto -	A. Dausigne -	21 6 8		
3 - -	Charlotte Moody -	female ditto -	C. Edwards -	12 - -		
—	Elizabeth Campbell -	- ditto -	Mr. Smith -	8 - -		
—	James Garnet -	male ditto -	Miss Taylor -	24 10 10		paid to Receiver-general.
2 March -	Louisa Richards -	female ditto -	R. J. Alexander -	12 - -		
—	Rebecca Barnes -	- ditto -	Miss Taylor -	16 - -		paid to Receiver-general.
4 March -	Jane Johnson -	- ditto -	Mr. Thornhill -	16 - -		
7 - -	Susan Anderson -	- ditto -	Rev. Arch. Pope -	19 - -		
13 - -	William M'Cullock -	male ditto -	D. Da Costa -	23 6 -		
18 - -	Amelia -	female ditto -	A. Beveridge -	11 6 8		
19 - -	Ann Clarke -	- ditto -	Jane Wright -	11 10 -		
—	Mary Dias -	- ditto -	Judith Isaacs -	11 10 -		
—	George Davis -	male ditto -	Mr. B. Seymour -	23 - -		
10 March -	Julian Bolt -	female ditto -	Levy Barned -	11 10 -		
1 April -	Elizabeth Walker -	- - female non-pr., domestic.	Antoinette Morris -	15 6 8		
4 - -	William Dallas -	male ditto -	Joseph Alexander -	18 - -		
0 - -	John Beechy -	- - head grass-man, non-prædial.	Thomas Barnes -	60 - -		
7 - -	Prudence Jackson -	- - female non-pr., domestic.	Miss Christian -	15 6 8		
9 - -	Nancy Kildare -	- ditto -	Mr. De Crasto -	16 - -		
11 - -	Maria Stewart -	- ditto -	Mrs. Campbell -	22 - -		
15 - -	Rosie Wynter -	- ditto -	Elias Gates -	14 13 4		
—	Abraham Saunders -	male ditto -	Mrs. O'Neil -	- - -	9 3 4	
—	Mathew Dracketh -	- ditto -	A. Davis -	22 - -		
—	Charles James -	ditto, blacksmith -	Mr. James -	24 - -		
—	Mary Bell -	- - female non-pr., domestic.	Alfred E. Robins -	16 - -		

(continued)

DATE of Valuation.	NAME of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class, and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of the Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if Unconcluded.
PARISH OF KINGSTON, DISTRICT OF KINGSTON— <i>continued.</i>				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
1837:						
2 May	Caroline Robertson	- - female non-pr., domestic.	Marg. Dunbar	12 13 4		
9 -	Maria Bowley	- ditto - - -	Elizabeth Rose	10 13 4	- - -	- - paid to Receiver-general.
15 -	Ann Welch	- ditto - - -	Pereira Mendis	12 13 4		
16 -	Antoinette Ariano	- ditto - - -	Joseph Ariano	14 11 8		
17 -	Frances Judah	- ditto - - -	Eliz. C. Bailey	- - -	16 - -	
22 -	Priscilla Thomas	- ditto - - -	Rosanna Derby	10 13 4		
2 June	Sarah Farriere	- ditto - - -	John Farriere	13 6 8		
3 -	David Gray	male ditto - - -	W. V. Fuller	20 - -		
5 -	Richard Rixstall	- ditto - - -	Carol. Copeland	20 - -		
16 -	Robert Rowley	non-pr., pioneer	Atkinson & Hosier	25 - -		
—	John Simmons	ditto, mason	C. M'Glashen	19 - -		
19 June	Eliz. M'Pherson	female non-prædial	Eleanor Wood	11 5 10		
—	Cath. M'Pherson	- ditto - - -	- ditto - - -	6 9 2		
—	Catherine Wynter	- ditto - - -	Helenus White	12 17 11		
21 June	Eliza Cummins	- ditto - - -	Eliza Harrison	15 16 8		
30 -	Gracy Charlton	- ditto - - -	Elizabeth Reid	13 - -		
11 July	Catherine Spiers	- ditto - - -	Catherine Bailey	9 - -		
—	Elizabeth Francis	- ditto - - -	Moses Da Costa	9 3 4		
12 July	Sophia Tully	- ditto - - -	Ann Sheyer	12 - -		
14 -	Priscilla Roberts	- ditto - - -	Margaret Dunbar	12 - -		
15 -	Jane Bell	- ditto - - -	Mathew White	6 - -		
17 -	Olive Wilnot	- ditto - - -	Thomas White	15 - -		
25 -	Robert Carrol	male ditto - - -	D. Alexander	17 6 8		
27 -	Jane Carpenter	female ditto - - -	Robert Smith	8 13 4		
28 -	Henry Hunter	male ditto - - -	Mary Fortière	14 11 8		
TOTALS - - £.				974 2 9	254 16 5	
						H. Moresby, Special Justice.

PARISH OF ST. MARY, NORTH WEST LEEWARD DISTRICT:						
1836:						
5 Nov.	Julian Wilson	female non-prædial	Jane Ewers	24 - -		
12 -	Robert Campbell	male pr. attached	Greenwood	56 - -		
19 -	John Innis	- ditto - - -	Langley	- - -	55 - -	
—	John Marshall	- ditto - - -	Crescent	30 - -		
—	Eliza Waters	female non-prædial	- - -	21 6 8		
—	Charles Scott	- - male pr., cooper, attached.	Wentworth	- - -	65 - -	
3 Dec.	Sarah Bayley	female pr. attached	Pemberton Valley	48 17 10		
10 -	Richard Hamilton	male pr. unattached	Castlemine	48 - -		
31 -	Francis Bennett	male non-prædial	Mason Hall	16 17 10		
1837:						
21 January	William Sims	- - male pr., constable, attached.	Castlemine	67 13 4		
—	Edward Brown	male pr. attached	Preston	58 6 8		
—	Maria Henry	female pr. attached	Fontabelle	37 6 8		
4 February	Mary Bridges	- ditto - - -	Crescent	- - -	44 6 8	
—	Elizabeth Henley	fem. pr. unattached	Castle Comfort	- - -	46 13 4	
18 February	Eleanor Forbes	female pr. attached	Russel Hall	23 6 8		
—	Rebecca Barton	fem. pr. unattached	Mason Hall	- - -	34 13 4	
25 February	Thomas Pennock	male non-prædial	Barriffe Hall	30 - -		
11 March	Robert Collins	male pr. unattached	Mason Hall	37 6 8		
—	Julian M'Cormick	female non-prædial	- ditto - - -	20 - -		
—	Jemmy M'Cormick	male pr. unattached	- ditto - - -	27 6 8		
—	William Jacks	- - male non-pr., carpenter.	Edw. Livingstone	- - -	33 6 8	
—	James Jacks	- ditto - - -	- ditto - - -	- - -	33 6 8	
—	Rosalie Grant	female pr. attached	Albion	30 - -		
18 March	Edwin Morrison	male pr. unattached	Clifton Hill	47 - -		
—	Sophia Byfield	female non-prædial	George Gordon	- - -	11 14 5	
—	Ruthy Ann Francis	female pr. attached	Trinity	40 6 8		
—	J. Ann Wentworth	- ditto - - -	Tryall	19 - -		

DATE of Valuation.	NAME of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class, and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of the Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if Unconcluded.
PARISH OF ST. MARY, NORTH WEST LEEWARD DISTRICT— <i>continued.</i>				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
1837:						
1 April -	Mary Field -	fem. pr. unattached	Gibraltar -	22 4 5½		
—	Harriett -	female non-prædial	ditto -	17 15 7		
—	Caroline Henry -	- ditto -	ditto -	16 - -		
—	Jane Gibson -	- ditto -	Albion -	16 - -		
8 April -	William Johnson -	- - male pr., cooper, attached.	Brimmer Hall -	- - -	66 13 4	
—	Charles Barton -	male pr. unattached	Mason Hall -	- - -	36 13 4	
5 April -	Henrietta Cameron -	female pr. attached	Roslin -	20 - -		
—	Eleanor Richards -	- ditto -	Trinity -	20 - -		
—	Jane Bryan -	- ditto -	ditto -	20 - -		
7 April -	Christopher Dobson -	male pr. unattached	Stoneyfield -	- - -	47 13 4	
8 -	Patrick Bury -	male pr. attached -	New Ramble -	34 13 4		
—	Elizabeth Frame -	female non-prædial	Union Hill -	15 - -		
9 April -	Charles Grant -	female pr. attached	Albion -	42 13 4		
8 -	Cecilia Hall -	- ditto -	ditto -	40 - -		
1 May -	Jeannette Bowley -	female non-prædial	Union Hill -	18 - -		
3 -	Francis Hall -	male non-prædial	Miles Nugent -	14 - -		
6 -	Harriett Garvey -	female non-prædial	Boscobell -	21 6 8		
10 -	Frances Lyons -	- ditto -	Jane Bertus -	8 - -		
17 -	Mary Ann Newton -	female pr. attached	Preston -	38 - -		
—	Susan Beckford -	female non-prædial	Wilderness -	17 6 8		
3 June -	Ritty Welsh -	- ditto -	Nonsuch -	16 6 8		
—	Robert Stevenson -	male pr. attached -	ditto -	- - -	20 - -	
—	Bessy Channer -	female pr. attached	Tryall -	- - -	32 6 8	
—	Eliza Campbell -	- ditto -	Albion -	42 13 4		
10 June -	Elvira Forbes -	female non-prædial	Jane Ewers -	16 6 8		
17 -	Sarah Gardiner -	female pr. attached	Pemberton Valley -	20 - -		
—	Amelia Martin -	fem. pr. unattached	Airy Hill -	- - -	42 13 4	
—	Cecilia Grandison -	- ditto -	Berry Hill -	42 13 4		
—	Letitia Green -	- ditto -	ditto -	42 13 4		
—	Frances King -	- ditto -	Bishop Mount -	20 - -		
22 June -	Caroline Byndloss -	- ditto -	Stoneyfield -	32 17 10		
23 -	Susan Murphy -	female non-prædial	Mary Cameron -	16 - -		
1 July -	Edward Ray -	male non-prædial -	Wentworth -	20 - -		
—	Edward Roberts -	- - male pr., car- penter, attached.	Whitehall -	- - -	58 15 -	
—	Emanuel Roberts -	male pr. attached -	ditto -	- - -	32 8 4	
—	Margiana Ray -	female non-prædial	Dorothy Wright	15 - -		
8 July -	Mary Stevens -	fem. pr. unattached	Mason Hall -	18 - -		
10 -	Maria M'Donald -	female non prædial	Cherry Garden -	16 - -		
15 -	Mary Davis -	- ditto -	Alex. Cameron -	- - -	16 - -	
29 -	George Barriffe -	male pr. unattached	Mason Hall -	24 - -		
TOTAL - - £.				1,406 6 10½	678 8 5	
						William Marlon, Special Justice.
PARISH OF CLARENDON, CHAPELTON DISTRICT:						
1837:						
8 April -	Robert Jones -	male non-pr., servant	Alexandria -	25 - -		
15 -	James Gordon -	male pr. attached -	Lucky Valley -	46 - -		
10 June -	Ann Bryson -	female non prædial	Old Plantation -	- - -	15 - -	-- thought the sum awarded too much.
8 July -	James Johnson -	male non-pr., tailor	Miss Faulkner -	16 - -		
29 -	Mary Ann Thomas -	female pr. attached	Mullett Hall -	25 - -		
TOTAL - - £.				112 - -	15 - -	
						Philip O'Reilly, Special Justice.

DATE of Valuation.	NAME of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class, and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of the Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if Unconcluded.
PARISH OF TRELAWNY, INTERIOR DISTRICT:				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
1836:						
1 Nov. -	John Clarke -	- - male pr. appren., a carpenter.	Belmont -	- - -	75 - -	too high.
—	Francis Williamson	male pr. apprent. -	Friendship -	10 - -		
—	John Sutherland -	male non-prædial -	- ditto -	11 6 8		
—	Mary Drummond -	female non-prædial	Silver Grove -	21 - -		
22 Nov. -	Margaret Bucknett	- ditto -	Pembroke -	21 - -		
24 - -	Joseph Green -	male non-prædial -	Fontabelle -	15 - -		
29 - -	Sarah Ann Gallimore	female non-prædial	Unity -	21 - -		
—	Eliza Linton -	- ditto -	Linton Park -	17 16 8		
—	Isabella Graves -	female prædial -	Gravesend -	- - -	44 - -	no money.
—	George Brown -	- - male prædial, a mason.	Chester -	60 - -		
14 Dec. -	Eliza Grant -	female non-prædial	- ditto -	10 - -		
16 - -	Mary Hogarth -	- ditto -	Garredu -	- - -	20 - -	no money.
—	Frances Thompson	- ditto -	York -	21 13 4		
—	Archy Brands -	male non-prædial -	Reserve -	13 - -		
—	George Henry -	- - male prædial, a carpenter.	Potosi -	- - -	60 - -	too high.
—	Elizabeth Gallimore	female prædial -	Gravesend -	- - -	34 - -	no money.
—	Charlotte Holden -	female non-prædial	Good Hope -	21 - -		
1837:						
2 January	James Broderick -	- - male prædial, a tradesman.	Friendship -	56 - -		
—	Ann Whittaker -	female non-prædial	Dromilly -	20 - -		
10 January	Catherine M'Donald	female prædial -	Covey -	36 - -		
—	Benjamin Reid -	- - male prædial, a plumber.	Gales Valley -	70 - -	- - -	a good tradesman
25 January	Robert Taylor -	male non prædial -	Belmont -	25 - -		
31 - -	Sarah Wright -	female non-prædial	Golden Grove -	18 - -		
—	Jane M'Farlane -	- ditto -	Pembroke -	18 - -		
—	Harriett Cross -	- ditto -	Wales -	18 - -		
—	Peggy Young -	female prædial -	Linton Park -	52 - -		
—	Mary Cohall -	- ditto -	- ditto -	42 - -		
28 Feb. -	Mary Ricard -	female non-prædial	Fontabelle -	19 - -		
—	Sarah Blackford -	- ditto -	Hampstead -	17 - -		
—	Eliza Williams -	- ditto -	Linton Park -	17 - -		
—	Catherine Charley	- ditto -	Lansguenet -	17 - -		
—	William Sanderson	male non-prædial -	Golden Grove -	15 - -		
13 March	Catherine M'Innis	female prædial -	Shawfield -	- - -	45 - -	} too high and no money.
—	Richard Barrett -	- - male prædial, a mason.	Cambridge -	- - -	67 10 -	
—	Jane Gallimore -	female non-prædial	Unity -	15 - -		
—	Sarah Menzies -	female prædial -	Good Hope -	49 - -		
—	Grace Birch -	- ditto -	Retreat -	18 - -		
24 March	George Anderson -	- - male prædial, a carpenter.	Bunkers Hill -	50 - -		
—	Elizabeth Foster -	female non-prædial	Bunkers Hill -	15 - -		
—	Elizabeth Robinson	- ditto -	Reserve -	16 6 8		
5 May -	Emily Delisser -	female prædial -	Gravesend -	- - -	34 13 4	too high.
—	Martha Thompson	female non-prædial	Pembroke -	14 3 4		
—	Christian Williams	female prædial -	Bounty Hall -	- - -	47 3 4	too high.
—	Elizabeth Wilson -	female non-prædial	Reserve -	13 6 8		
—	Elizabeth Hames -	- ditto -	Retreat -	18 - -		
20 May -	Henrietta Richards	female prædial -	Reserve -	32 - -		
—	Ann Kerr -	- ditto -	Wakefield -	47 18 4		
—	John Cole -	- male prædial -	Wales -	- - -	47 18 4	too high.
25 May -	Jane Petrikin -	female prædial -	Weston Favel -	42 4 7		
—	Rebecca Henry -	female non-prædial	York -	16 - -		
—	Mary Gale -	- ditto -	Wakefield -	16 - -		
31 May -	John Brown -	male prædial -	Reserve -	35 - -		
—	George Goodwin -	male non-prædial -	Cambridge -	18 13 4		
—	William Thomas -	- ditto -	Peru -	16 - -		
14 June -	Caroline Gore -	female non-prædial	Wales -	11 5 -		
15 - -	Robert Mitchell -	male prædial -	Good Hope -	- - -	25 - -	too high.
19 July -	Mary Ann Girdwood	female non-prædial	- ditto -	14 10 -		
—	Samuel Simpson -	male prædial -	Zilston -	- - -	47 5 -	too high.

S. Pryce,
Special Justice.

DATE of Valuation.	NAME of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class, and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of the Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if Unconcluded.
PARISHES OF ST. JAMES, HANOVER, AND WESTMORLAND WESTERN INTERIOR DISTRICT:						
1836:						
2 Nov. -	Charles Campbell	- - male prædial, carpenter.	York Pen -	- - -	105 13 2	
6 - -	Rebecca Hudson	- female prædial -	- - Haughton- grove Pen.	- - -	60 - -	
1837:						
May -	Sarah Mudie	- female non-prædial	Wiltshire - -	14 5 8		
July -	Samuel James	- - male prædial, carpenter.	Eden - -	60 5 7		
			TOTAL - - £.	74 11 3	165 13 2	
						J. Odell, Special Justice.
PARISH OF WESTMORLAND, LEEWARD DISTRICT:						
1836:						
Dec. -	Frances Coates	- female non-prædial	Margaret Wilson	33 6 4		
- -	Isabella Guthrie	- female non-prædial	Moreland -	18 15 -		
o - -	Frances Hird	- female prædial -	Paul Island -	21 - -		
- -	Catherine Rimner	- female non-prædial	Meylersfield -	41 - -		
- -	Henry Meyler	- male non-prædial	- ditto - -	6 6 8		
1837:						
Jan. -	Ann Connell	- female non-prædial	Glasgow - -	20 - -		
- -	Mary Webster	- female prædial -	Mount Eagle -	60 - -		
Feb. -	Ann Clark	- female non-prædial	King's Valley -	16 - -		
8 - -	Elizabeth Wagstaff	- female prædial -	Martin Wagstaff	- - -	70 - -	
- -	Allan Walker	- female prædial -	Cape Savanna -	- - -	21 6 8	
March -	Mary A. Martin	- female non-prædial	Mary Robertson	34 - -		
6 - -	Annie Ashman	- female non-prædial	Drummonds -	21 6 8		
- -	Henrietta Evans	- female prædial -	Mount Eagle -	10 - -		
- -	David Fisher	- - male prædial, car- penter.	King's Valley -	58 - -		
8 Jan. -	Jane Walker	- female non-prædial	Meylersfield -	30 - -		
5 March	Henney Miller	- female non-prædial	T. Harpur -	17 - -		
- -	Jane Cathcart	- female non-prædial	Glasgow - -	23 - -		
- -	Wm. Plymouth	- - male prædial, car- penter.	Old Hope -	78 - -		
April -	Rachel Williams	- female prædial -	Glasgow - -	80 - -		
- -	Lizzy Williams	- female prædial -	- ditto - -	65 - -		
- -	Mary Saunders	- female non-prædial	A. Deleon -	19 6 8		
April -	Horace Beckford	- male prædial -	King's Valley -	65 6 8		
May -	Letitia Johnson	- female non-prædial	A. K. Storer -	27 - -		
- -	John Lewis	- male prædial -	H. Whitelock -	- - -	80 3 9	
- -	Wm. Bernard	- male prædial -	Longpond -	- - -	91 10 -	
o May -	Walter Pringle	- male non-prædial -	Mount Eagle -	32 - -		
June -	Hugh Stewart	- male non-prædial -	- ditto - -	27 10 -		
7 - -	James Hylton	- male non-prædial -	Meylersfield -	10 6 8		
4 - -	Eleanor Johnson	- female prædial -	Retirement -	56 - -		
- -	Bessey Renton	- female non-prædial	Glasgow - -	25 - -		
			TOTAL - - £.	895 4 8	262 11 3	
						E. D. Philp, Special Justice.

(continued)

DATE of Valuation.	NAME of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class, and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of the Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if Unconcluded.
PARISH OF ST. ANN, LEEWARD OR LOWER DRY HARBOUR DISTRICT :						
1836 :				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
23 Nov. -	Jeannette Burnett	female pr. apprentice	Dornock - -	58 13 4		
10 Dec. -	Eliza Sivright -	female non-pr. app.	Home Castle -	32 10 -		
-	Mary Sivright -	- ditto - -	- ditto - -	30 - -		
-	John Guest -	male pr. apprentice	Belle Air - -	- - -	72 10 -	
17 Dec. -	Charles Brown -	male non-pr. app. -	Retreat - -	25 - -		
1837 :						
21 Jan. -	Richard Steele -	- - male pr. appren- tice, carpenter.	Bleinfields -	- - -	96 - -	
-	Jane Borland -	female pr. apprentice	Hopewell -	- - -	25 - -	
-	Charles M'Donald	male pr. apprentice	Minard -	- - -	73 10 -	
4 Feb. -	George Allen -	male non-pr. app. -	Hopewell -	30 - -		
18 - -	Julian Fagan -	female non-pr. app.	Retreat -	- - -	25 - -	
4 March	Edward Lawrence	male pr. apprentice	Lincoln -	73 - -		
-	John Balnevis -	- ditto - -	- ditto -	- - -	54 13 4	
-	William Burnett -	- ditto - -	Dornock -	73 - -		
11 - -	Thomas Duggan -	- ditto - -	Valley Minor -	- - -	37 11 8	
18 - -	James Williams -	male non-pr. app. -	Penshurst -	46 4 5		
15 April -	Richard Johnston	male pr. apprentice	Lindale -	- - -	59 - -	
-	John Lawrence -	- ditto - -	Lincoln -	- - -	59 - -	
13 May -	Jane Allen -	female pr. apprentice	Lindale -	- - -	44 6 8	
5 June -	Mary Samuels -	- ditto - -	Retreat -	5 - -		
10 - -	Maria Burnas -	female non-pr. app.	Knapdale -	- - -	15 - -	
-	Charlotte Allen -	- ditto - -	G. R. Tingle, esq.	24 10 -		
-	Margaret Fyfe -	- ditto - -	- - estate of Mary Ann Baillie.	20 - -		
-	James Stevenson, son of above.	- - has never done any work.	- ditto -	- - -	10 - -	
17 - -	Rebecca Bramwell	female pr. apprentice	Retreat -	45 - -		
-	Maria Wills -	female non-pr. app.	Mrs. Ann Fraser	6 6 8		
-	Ann Wills -	- ditto - -	- ditto -	4 6 8		
24 - -	Maria Burnett -	female pr. apprentice	Dornock -	- - -	45 - -	
29 July -	Thomas Llewelly	male pr. apprentice	Mount Pleasant	- - -	35 - -	
			TOTAL - - £.	473 10 1	651 11 8	
						Stanley Rawlinson, Special Justice.

PARISH OF ST. THOMAS-IN-THE-VALE, AND PRECINCT OF ST. JOHN, LINDAS DISTRICT :						
1837 :						
10 Jan. -	Anne Birmingham	- - female prædial apprentice.	Stirling Castle -	30 - -		No regular re- cord has been kept kept of inconclu- sive valuations; but they would not at most exceed five in number. The irregular at- tendance of ma- gistrates at Point Hill, and extent of ground inclin- ing the apprentice to attend the near- est court.
10 Feb. -	Sarah M'Donald -	- ditto - -	Mount Idalia -	31 - -		
-	Letitia Brown -	prædial unattached	Orangefield -	- - -	50 - -	
15 June -	Thomas Scott -	- - male prædial attached, carpenter and millwright.	Cliffords -	120 - -		
2 May -	Sarah Moyen -	- - female prædial apprentice.	Pleasant Hill -	28 - -		
-	Margaret Hill -	- ditto - -	- ditto -	36 - -		
-	Thomas Cargill -	prædial unattached	- ditto -	- - -	60 - -	
			TOTAL - - £.	245 - -	110 - -	
						S. R. Ricketts, Special Justice.

DATE of Valuation.	NAME. of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class, and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of the Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if Unconcluded.
ST. THOMAS-IN-THE-VALE, RODNEY HALL DISTRICT :						
1837:				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
7 Jan. -	James Hamilton -	non-prædial -	Tullock Estate -	19 - -		
—	Mary Lewis -	- ditto -	Mickton Pen -	20 - -		
—	James Walters -	prædial -	- ditto -	57 - -		
13 Jan. -	Catherine Gawson	non-prædial -	Rodney Hall -	16 - -		
21 Jan. -	Ann F. Smith -	prædial -	Tullock Estate -	47 - -		
—	J. Brooks -	ditto -	Mt. Mathews -	55 - -		
4 Feb. -	Mary Marshall -	ditto -	ditto -	44 - -		
—	Jane Cotham -	non-prædial -	Rodney Hall -	30 - -		
11 Feb. -	Ann Hall -	prædial -	Lemon Ridge -	44 18 1		
18 Feb. -	Francis Cox -	non-prædial -	Rodney Hall -	21 6 8		
1 April -	James Taylor -	prædial -	St. Thomas-in- the-Vale.	53 6 8		
8 April -	Francis Reynolds -	ditto -	- ditto -	55 - -		
15 April -	Jessy Milburne -	non-prædial -	Airy Mount -	28 6 8		
22 April -	Sarah Hamilton and her twin children, daughters.	- ditto -	Shenton -	28 6 8		
—	Thomas Edberry, Joseph Edberry, Donald Edberry, brothers.	- ditto -	Raramont -	42 - -		
29 April -	Mary Gordon -	- ditto -	Rose Hall -	- - -	22 - -	
TOTAL - - £.				554 4 9	22 - -	
I certify that the case of valuation of Mary Gordon was handed to Mr. Special Justice, on his taking charge of the district. All the other valuations have been paid to me, and by me to the estates.						
				J. Reynolds, Special Justice.		
CENTRE DISTRICT, ST. ANN'S :						
From 1 May 1837 to 31 July 1837:						
1837:						
12 May -	Robert Garvey -	non-prædial -	Roaring River -	30 - -		
20 May -	Olivia Henry -	- ditto -	Seville -	20 13 4		
—	William Tracy -	prædial -	ditto -	53 - -		
10 June -	John Walters, a boy.	ditto -	Greenwich Park	26 6 8		
24 July -	J. Swithenbank -	non-prædial -	Seville -	- - -	17 13 4	- - this valuation unconcluded, but J. Swithenbank is performing his duty on the estate of Seville.
TOTAL - - £.				130 - -	17 13 4	
				J. Reynolds, Special Justice.		

Date of Valuation.	NAME of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of the Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if Unconcluded.
PARISH OF ST. CATHERINE, LEEWARD DISTRICT :				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
1836:						
17 Dec.	John Lewis - -	non-prædial - -	Hon. John Lunan	43 - -		
1837:						
28 Jan.	Clementina Auxilly	ditto - - -	Mrs. Bolton -	19 10 -		
—	Lavinia Maxfield -	ditto - - -	Miss Coakley -	17 6 8		
11 Feb.	Cecilia Ingram -	prædial - - -	Mrs. Ingram -	11 11 - ½		
11 April	William Lewis -	ditto - - -	Twickenham-park estate.	16 - 3	- - -	- - Evidence taken on oath, that John Small's labour was worth 3s. 4d. per diem.
19 -	John Small - -	ditto - - -	J. A. Breary of St. John's.	- - -	85 4 6	- - ditto, 2 s. 11 d. per diem.
22 -	George Kingrose -	ditto - - -	Geo. W. Hamilton	- - -	74 5 -	ditto, 20l. per ann.
28 -	William Spittal -	ditto - - -	Ditto - - -	- - -	43 12 6	
—	George Laing -	non-prædial -	Ditto - - -	14 13 4		- - Unconcluded, local justices estimating the value of Isabella Edwards' services at 18l. per annum, which the special magistrate considered too much for an infirm and weakly woman.
13 May	Isabella Edwards -	prædial - - -	Cross-pen estate -	- - -	- - -	
17 June	Robert Ingram -	non-prædial -	Two Mile Wood Pen	18 13 4		
24 -	Amelia Johnson -	ditto - - -	Orange-grove plantation.	3 12 2		
1 July	Thomas Brood -	ditto - - -	Dr. Hawkins -	12 2 9		
8 -	Daniel Francis -	ditto - - -	Ditto - - -	21 - -		
12 August	Susan Burntsides -	prædial - - -	Taylor's Caymanas estate.	42 12 2		
22 -	Robert Hamilton -	non-prædial -	Thos. Laud, esq.	16 6 8		
			£.	236 8 4 ½	203 2 -	
						William Ramsay, Special Magistrate.

PARISH OF ST. GEORGE'S, COFFEE MOUNTAIN DISTRICT :						
1837:						
25 July	William Baines -	male, non-prædial, domestic.	Mount Holstein	- - -	20 - -	No money.
—	John Stamp - -	male, non-prædial, carpenter.	Ditto - -	- - -	15 - -	ditto.
				£.	35 - -	
						R. St. John, Special Justice.

PARISH OF TRELAWNY, FALMOUTH DISTRICT :						
1836:						
5 Nov.	Elizabeth Brown -	female, non-pr. app.	Green Park -	18 13 4		
—	Sarah Reid - -	ditto - - -	Ab. Frizwell, Falmouth.	18 13 4		
7 Nov.	Mary Jackson -	female, prædial app.	Mrs. Scarlett, S. Marsh.	40 - -		
—	Eliza Scarlett -	ditto - - -	Judith Hine, S. Marsh.	40 - -		
—	Rebecca Lea -	female, non-pr. app.	F. James, Falmouth	4 13 4		
12 Nov.	Margaret Hyslop -	ditto - - -	Green Park -	17 10 -		
—	James McIntosh -	male, prædial app.	Ditto - - -	- - -	30 - -	No funds.
16 Nov.	Margaret Black -	female, non-pr. app.	Tap Hill - -	38 13 4		
19 -	Margaret Hazell -	ditto - - -	Mrs. Dr. Hodges, Falmouth.	13 6 8		
21 -	Sarah White -	ditto - - -	Roulter Brown, Falmouth.	16 13 4		
—	Catherine Jenkins	female, non-prædial	F. L. Lilly, Fm°	- - -	20 - -	ditto
—	George Marcus -	male, prædial apprentice, carpenter.	Orange Valley -	61 2 3		
28 Nov.	Henry Cooper -	male, non-pr. app.	J. Muir, Falmouth	27 15 7		
—	Myra - - -	female, non-pr. app.	W. Dyer, Falmouth	22 4 6		

Date of Valuation.	NAME of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if Unconcluded.
1836:				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
10 Dec.	James James -	male, prædial app.	Anne, Browne, Fm ^o	- - -	30 - -	no funds tendered.
12 -	Catherine Williams -	female, non-pr. app.	R. Chambers, Lucia	12 13 4	- - -	
-	Anne Robertson -	ditto - - -	E. A. Clarke, Fm ^o	19 10 7	- - -	
19 Dec.	Charlotte Gordon -	ditto - - -	R. W. G. Scott, Fm ^o	19 8 11	- - -	
24 -	Rebecca Knowles -	female, prædial app.	Hague - -	33 8 11	- - -	
1837:						
16 Jan.	Elizabeth Davies -	ditto - - -	Litchfield Pen -	- - -	39 13 4	ditto.
-	William Kelly -	male, non-pr. app.	Eliz. Earl, Fm ^o	- - -	45 - -	ditto.
23 Jan.	Jane Campbell -	female, non-pr. app.	Mrs. Stewart, Fm ^o	- - -	10 3 -	ditto.
-	Catherine Marrett -	female, prædial app.	Hague - -	- - -	30 6 8	ditto.
28 Jan.	Edward McMillan -	male, prædial app.	Green Side -	46 13 4	- - -	
-	George Smith -	male, non-pr. app.	Green Park -	26 - -	- - -	
30 Jan.	Sarah Page -	female, non-pr. app.	Wm. Dyer, Fm ^o	24 - -	- - -	
-	Charles Truscott -	male, non-pr. app.	Armagh - -	- - -	25 - -	ditto.
4 Feb.	Meshé -	female, non-pr. app.	Orange Valley -	20 - -	- - -	
-	Rebecca Hardiman -	ditto - - -	Jno. Vernon, Fm ^o	- - -	22 10 -	
6 Feb.	Jane Gardiner -	ditto - - -	Mrs. Scarlett, St. Marsh.	- - -	20 - -	
-	Peter Walker -	male, prædial app. and hd. carpenter	Green Park -	- - -	91 15 7	
13 Feb.	Frances Smillie -	female, non-pr. app.	Kent - -	15 3 4	- - -	
-	Eliza - -	ditto - - -	Cath. Scott, Fm ^o	- - -	19 8 11	
-	Anne Cameron -	ditto - - -	A. Campbell, Fm ^o	12 10 -	- - -	
27 Feb.	Thomas Cook -	male, non-pr. app.	Orange Valley -	- - -	18 17 10	
-	Elizabeth Webb -	female, non-pr. app.	M. A. Campbell, Fm ^o	- - -	14 13 4	
-	Jane Lyon -	ditto - - -	M. D. Carvalho, Fm ^o	15 2 3	- - -	
4 March	Mary Reed -	ditto - - -	Epsom Pen -	10 - -	- - -	
-	James Scarlett -	male, prædial app.	Green Park -	- - -	45 11 1	
-	Allick Morris -	ditto - - -	Mrs. M. G. Hine, St. Marsh.	36 8 7	- - -	
-	James Holloway -	male, non-pr. app.	Armagh - -	3 11 1	- - -	
-	Sarah Christie -	female, prædial app.	Grange - -	41 - -	- - -	
11 March	Mary N. Tyrrell -	female, non-pr. app.	U. T. Todd -	12 - -	- - -	
-	Jane Campbell -	ditto - - -	Andrew Wells, Fm ^o	21 2 3	- - -	
-	Mary N. Steel -	ditto - - -	Miss Stoney, Fm ^o	9 2 10	- - -	
13 March	Sarah Dunbar -	ditto - - -	E. A. Clark, Fm ^o	- - -	19 - -	
18 -	James Edmunds -	male, prædial app.	Green Park -	- - -	48 17 10	
-	Bryan -	ditto - - -	Wm. Dyer, Fm ^o	- - -	40 - -	
20 March	Jno. Christie -	male, non-pr. app.	Wm. Cardien, Fm ^o	- - -	23 4 6	
-	Kingston -	ditto - - -	Mrs. E. Giles, Fm ^o	- - -	22 4 6	
25 March	William McLeod -	ditto - - -	Wm. Flash, Fm ^o	- - -	19 11 1	
-	Margaret Wray -	female, non-pr. app.	C. Jackson, Fm ^o	17 15 7	- - -	
-	Eliza Wray -	ditto - - -	Wm. Flesh, Fm ^o	10 13 4	- - -	
-	Mary Wray -	ditto - - -	C. Jackson, Fm ^o	10 13 4	- - -	
12 April	Mary Cotter -	ditto - - -	Wm. Tharp, Fm ^o	17 15 7	- - -	
-	Anne Brissett -	female, prædial app.	Spring - -	10 17 10	- - -	
8 April	Sarah McNeish -	ditto - - -	Ginger Valley -	39 - -	- - -	
10 -	Jno. Dallas -	male, non-pr. app.	Daniel Browne -	11 13 4	- - -	
15 -	Mary Sammells -	female, prædial app.	Hague - -	- - -	15 3 4	
-	Elizabeth Burke -	female, non-pr. app.	W. Cardien, Fm ^o	15 - -	- - -	
22 April	Sarah Anne -	ditto - - -	A. Williams, Fm ^o	- - -	11 13 4	
5 May	Martha Thompson -	ditto - - -	Pembroke -	- - -	14 13 4	
-	Emily Delisser -	female, prædial app.	Gravesend -	- - -	34 13 4	
-	Christian Williams -	ditto - - -	Bounty Hall -	- - -	47 13 4	
-	Elizabeth Haymes -	female, non-pr. app.	Retreat - -	- - -	18 15 -	
-	Elizabeth Wilson -	ditto - - -	Reserve - -	13 6 8	- - -	
6 May	Charlotte Fowler -	ditto - - -	Eliza Muir, Fm ^o	14 5 -	- - -	
-	Fanny Browne -	female, prædial app.	Water Valley -	34 13 4	- - -	
8 May	Amelia Small -	ditto - - -	Green Park -	- - -	17 6 8	
-	Frances Holmes -	female, non-pr. app.	Jas. Muir, Falm ^o	14 4 5	- - -	
22 May	Amelia Barnett -	ditto - - -	S. Edwards, Fm ^o	15 11 3	- - -	
29 -	William Henry -	male, non-pr. app.	W. Miller, Armagh	14 - -	- - -	
5 June	Lizzy Davis -	female, non-pr. app.	Kent - -	14 - -	- - -	
10 -	Susan -	ditto - - -	Sam. Lugg, Fm ^o	- - -	6 - -	
19 -	Ann Hyatt -	female, prædial app.	Hague - -	12 10 -	- - -	
26 -	Samuel Holland -	male, non-pr. app.	Mrs. Wilton -	12 5 7	- - -	
10 July	Anne Kelly -	female, non-pr. app.	M. Thompson, Rock	11 6 8	- - -	
12 -	George Forbes -	male, non-pr. app.	W. Hamilton, Fm ^o	15 5 7	- - -	
-	William Kelly -	ditto - - -	Jos. Harrey, Fm ^o	- - -	6 - -	
17 July	James Atkins -	male, prædial app.	Hague - -	- - -	24 6 8	
24 -	Grace -	female, non-pr. app.	Orange Valley -	10 13 4	- - -	
-	George Scott -	male, prædial app.	Green Side -	45 - -	- - -	
-	Mary Graves -	female, non-pr. app.	Jos. Hardy, Fm ^o	13 6 8	- - -	

Jos. Rawlins Thomas, Lieutenant R. N.,
Special Justice.

Date of Valuation.	NAME of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if Unconcluded.
PARISH OF ST. THOMAS-IN-THE-VALE, LEEWARD DISTRICT :				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
1837 :						
6 May -	Cecilia McDonald	female, non-pr. app.	Enfield - -	26 - -		
-	Rebecca McDermott	female, præd. app.	Cotswold - -	- - -	70 - -	} One-third not deducted.
-	Diana Roberts	ditto - - -	ditto - - -	- - -	30 - -	
27 May -	Eliza Hickson	female, non-pr. app.	Miss Ryan - -	20 - -		
29 - -	John Davis	male, non-pr. app.	Coolshade - -	10 - -		
30 June -	Bessy Cross	female, præd. app.	Harker's Hall -	50 - -		
-	Frederick French	male, prædial app.	Lemon Ridge -	- - -	60 - -	
-	Samuel Clarke	male, prædial app., coppersmith.	Thomas Edbury & Co. - -	- - -	80 - -	
-	Jane Wilson	female, præd. app.	New Works - -	- - -	40 - -	
17 July -	Maria Cooper	ditto - - -	Shenton - - -	50 - -		
18 - -	John Corner	male, non-pr. app.	Bybrook - - -	20 - -		
TOTAL - £.				176 - -	280 - -	
				Thomas Thomas, Special Justice.		
PARISHES OF MANCHESTER AND ST. ANDREW'S:						
1836 :						
14 Dec. -	John Reid - -	male, prædial att.	Great Valley -	54 - -	71 - -	- - Went for his money, and did not return.
16 - -	Anne Ewell - -	female, non-pr. att.	Enfield - - -	24 15 -		
1837 :						
26 January	Catherine Wright	female, prædial att.	Oatlands - - -	35 - -		
ST. ANDREW'S PARISH:						
1837 :						
10 April -	Francis Arnut	male, prædial att.	Mr. Arnut, Small Settlement.	43 6 8		
-	Eleanor Brown	female, prædial att.	Temple Hall -	- - -	56 6 8	
-	Rodney Graham	male, prædial att.	Rosemount - -	- - -	63 5 4	
14 April -	Alexander Hughes	ditto - - -	- - -	84 10 -		
-	Nancy Graham	female, prædial att.	- - -	- - -	56 6 8	
-	Adam Smith	male, prædial att.	- - -	- - -	63 5 4	
2 May -	January Marshall	ditto - - -	Mr. Moses - -	- - -	35 13 4	
-	Jane Marshall	female, prædial att.	- - -	22 4 6		
11 May -	Duncan Campbell	male, prædial att.	King's Weston -	- - -	73 - -	
-	Fanny Francis	female, prædial att.	Campbell-street	- - -	65 - -	
-	Jane Dollar	ditto - - -	Golden Spring -	- - -	65 - -	
-	Pamela Horsfall	ditto - - -	Joppa - - -	- - -	65 - -	
-	Samuel Jones	male, prædial att.	Mr. George - -	- - -	65 - -	
3 June -	Prince Hughes	ditto - - -	Rosemount - -	73 - -	- - -	-- Moved for certiorari.
-	Rosetta East	female, prædial att.	- - -	60 - -		
-	William Small	male, prædial att.	O'Brien, Small Settlement.	- - -	72 - -	
-	Charlotte Ward	female, prædial att.	Mr. Hunt, Small Settlement.	21 - -		
-	Richard Harrint	ditto - - -	Mr. Harrint, Small Settlement.	- - -	25 - -	
TOTAL - £.				417 16 2	772 17 4	
				Arthur Welch, Special Justice.		
PARISH OF PORTLAND, DISTRICT PORT ANTONIO:						
1836 -	none.					
1837 :						
20 January	M. Thompson	female, non-prædial	Grange - - -	21 - -		
28 - -	C. Rennels	ditto - - -	Golden Vale -	18 13 4		
25 March	E. A. Orgill	female, prædial app.	Stanton Harcourt	- - -	72 - -	
-	C. Orgill	ditto - - -	ditto - - -	- - -	50 - -	
-	E. Fletcher	female, non-prædial	Castle Comfort -	25 - -		
-	E. Oatman	ditto - - -	Whidah - - -	21 6 8		
8 April -	C. Wylie	ditto - - -	Boston - - -	21 6 8		
-	A. Prince	ditto - - -	Stoney Hill -	21 6 8		
15 July -	J. Atkinson	ditto - - -	Mount Pleasant	15 - -		
-	S. Gerard	ditto - - -	Mrs. Brackenridge	13 6 8		
-	E. Gerard	ditto - - -	ditto - - -	10 - -		
TOTAL - £.				167 - -	122 - -	
				Henry Waddington, Special Justice.		

Date of Valuation.	NAME of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if Unconcluded.
PARISH OF ST. MARY, LEEWARD DISTRICT:				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
1837:						
13 Jan.	William Bennet -	prædial, blacksmith	Russell Hall -	- - -	60 16 8	
—	Olivia Jenkins -	prædial, field -	ditto -	21 - -		
22 Feb.	William Ellis -	ditto - -	Gibraltar, Mr. Ben. Hind.	- - -	60 - -	
—	Elizabeth Jackson -	non-prædial, domestic	Up Park -	36 - -		
—	Alex. Crossman -	prædial, pen keeper	Decoy Estate -	37 6 8		
—	Nelly Hay -	non-prædial, domestic	Endeavour, Dom ^k Plunkett, trustee	22 10 -		
5 May	Kitty Riely -	non-prædial, washerwoman.	Russell Hall -	21 15 -		
6 -	Charles Gordon -	prædial, field and handyman.	Warwick Castle	65 - -		
17 April	Susan Taylor -	prædial, field -	Three Hills -	- - -	43 6 8	
—	Frances Tharp -	prædial, mason -	ditto -	- - -	54 5 -	
19 May	James Miller -	prædial, handyman	Decoy Estate -	50 - -		
—	William Forbs -	prædial, field -	Huddersfield -	- - -	31 13 4	
—	Jane Willis -	ditto - -	Tower Hill -	40 - -		
—	John Willson -	ditto - -	ditto -	- - -	59 2 3	
—	Peter Anderson -	ditto - -	Cardiff Estate -	- - -	14 15 5	
23 June	Sarah Inch -	non-prædial, domestic	Halifax Estate -	18 - -		
1 Jan.	John Neil -	prædial, handyman	Epping Estate -	- 5 -		
30 June	Rebecca Gray -	non-prædial, domestic	Cardiff Estate -	26 6 8		
14 July	John Taylor -	prædial, handyman	Windsor -	- - -	57 6 3	
—	Thomas Petticrow -	prædial, mason -	Derry Estate -	57 6 3		
January	Princess A. Williams	prædial, field -	Mount Pleasant	- - -	48 - -	
				£. 397 9 7	429 5 7	
						Henry Walsh, Special Justice.

PARISH OF ST. THOMAS-IN-THE-EAST, P. GARDEN RIVER DISTRICT:						
1836:						
3 Dec.	Margaret Kelly -	female, non-pr. a. -	Duckenfield -	33 6 8		
—	Thomas Edman -	ditto - -	Mt. Felix -	13 6 8		
17 Dec.	Js. Logan -	male, prædial u. -	Cotton Tree -	35 16 8		
23 -	Delia Blake -	female, prædial a. -	Pleasant Hill -	35 16 8		
1837:						
7 Jan.	Natty Grant -	male, prædial a. -	Beacon Hill -	47 15 7		
21 -	Charlotte Milne -	female, non-pr. a. -	Rock Brook -	22 4 5		
28 -	Robert Scott -	male, prædial a. -	Glenmoy -	58 6 8		
—	Hugh Aitchinson -	male, prædial, u. -	Thornton -	58 6 8		
—	Mary Kelly -	female, non-pr. a. -	Wheelerfield -	21 6 8		
—	Robert Jackson -	male, pr. a. mason	Green Castle -	74 13 4		
4 Feb.	Charlotte Brown -	female, prædial a. -	Golden Valley -	28 - -		
18 -	Elizabeth Furgie -	female, non-pr. a. -	Golden Grove -	25 13 9		
25 -	Elizabeth Smith -	female, non-pr. u. -	Thornton -	18 17 10		
28 -	Leah Harvey -	female, prædial a. -	P. Garden River	34 3 4		
—	Marina Smith -	female, prædial u. -	Thornton -	46 13 4		
4 Mar.	Chs. M'Pherson -	male, prædial, a. -	Golden Valley -	60 14 9		
—	Pimelia Burke -	female, prædial a. -	Wheelerfield -	45 11 1		
—	Juliana Dick -	ditto - -	Bachelors' Hall -	56 18 11		
1 April	Nelly Thompson -	female, non-pr. a. -	Winchester -	21 6 8		
15 -	Marina Francis -	female, prædial a. -	Grampian -	30 6 8		
6 May	Caroline Williams -	ditto - -	Wheelerfield -	31 13 4		
—	Jane Wilson -	female, non-pr. a. -	Bath -	23 6 8		
—	William Livingston -	male, prædial u. -	Cotton Tree -	38 - -		
—	Ann Robinson -	female, prædial a. -	Wheelerfield -	27 8 11		
20 May	Margaret Dixon -	female, prædial u. -	Airy Castle -	42 4 6		
8 June	Brown Kennedy -	male, prædial a. -	Golden Valley -	54 3 4		
—	Elizabeth Kennedy -	female, prædial a. -	ditto -	16 12 3		
17 June	John Smith -	male, prædial u. -	Thornton -	50 - -		
—	Maria James -	female, prædial a. -	Duckenfield -	30 16 8		
15 July	Selina Dick -	female, prædial u. -	Bacon Hill -	50 - -		
TOTAL - £.				1,133 12 -		

George Willis,
Special Justice.

Date of Valuation.	NAME of the Apprentice.	Sex, Class and Trade of the Apprentice.	Name of Estate, or of the Master.	Sum Paid.	Sum Unpaid.	Remarks, if Unconcluded.
PARISH OF ST. ANN, WINDWARD DISTRICT:				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
1836:						
2 Nov. -	Rebecca Reid -	female, prædial a. -	Belle Vue -	55 - -		
—	Mary Hay -	fem., non-pr., domestic	Mary Scott -	22 3 4		
9 Nov. -	Richard Price -	male, pr., carpenter	Hiatt's-field -	122 4 6		
—	James Wilson -	male, prædial u. -	Mount Plenty -	30 - -		
—	James Brown -	male, prædial a. -	Mrs. Brown -	- - -	75 - -	
—	Isabella Russell -	fem., non-pr., domestic	Belle Vue -	18 4 6		
11 Nov. -	William Roberts -	male, pr., carpenter	Bigg -	91 9 6		
23 —	Chas. A. Williams -	ditto - - -	Orange Hall -	73 6 8		
—	Thomas Goulburn -	male, prædial a. -	Bachelor Hall -	- - -	53 15 7	
7 Dec. -	Jacob Cole -	ditto - - -	Cocoa-nut Grove -	- - -	47 15 7	
14 —	Sibly R. Byfield -	female, prædial a. -	Hiatt's-field -	- - -	52 11 2	
—	Jane Wheeler -	fem., non-pr., domestic	Retirement -	- - -	8 13 4	
1837:						
4 January	James Jones -	male, non-pr., domestic	Mount Pleasant	25 7 10		
9 —	Ant. Cunningham -	fem., non-pr., domestic	Thicketts -	31 2 3		
25 —	Leander Hall -	male, non-pr., domestic	Paradise -	25 - -		
—	Robert Stirling -	male, prædial u. -	Greenfield -	67 13 4		
—	Princess Amelia -	fem., non-pr., domestic	Bachelor Hall -	17 3 4		
—	William McCallam -	male, prædial a. -	Trafalgar -	9 3 4		
11 February	Henry Smallwood -	male, prædial u. -	Greenfield -	- - -	69 8 11	
—	M. A. Cunningham -	fem., non-pr., domestic	Thicketts -	27 15 7		
—	Augusta Hay -	ditto - - -	Same -	29 8 11		
4 March	Grant Cossley -	male, præd., sawyer	Hopewell -	68 6 8		
—	Jane Fuller -	female, prædial a. -	Williamsfield -	29 12 3		
—	Eleanor Walters -	ditto - - -	Same -	- - -	54 13 4	
—	Prince Williams -	male, non-pr., domestic	Paradise -	28 6 8		
8 March	Rebecca Stennet -	fem., non-pr., domestic	Newport -	23 2 8		
11 —	Mich. McDonnough -	male, prædial, carpenter & painter.	Woodfield -	- - -	112 19 3	
—	Ann Robinson -	female, non-pr., washer	Mount Pleasant	23 2 11		
—	Mary Richards -	female, prædial a. -	Eltham -	- - -	56 9 7	
—	James Taylor -	male, prædial a. -	Same -	- - -	56 9 7	
—	Thomas Taylor -	ditto - - -	Same -	- - -	45 3 8	
—	Emily Waters -	fem., non-pr., domestic	Bachelor Hall -	- - -	27 15 7	
22 —	Robert Forrest -	male, prædial a. -	Hiatt's-field -	- - -	71 2 3	
—	Ellen Garnes -	fem., non-pr., domestic	Shaw Park -	23 2 3		
—	William Davis -	male, pr., carpenter	Spicy Hill -	- - -	88 17 10	
—	Colin Plunkett -	male, prædial u. -	Newport -	- - -	48 17 10	
1 April -	Mary J. Scarlett -	fem., non-pr., domestic	Trafalgar -	14 4 6		
12 —	Sarah Clarke -	ditto - - -	Brothers' Retreat	25 15 10		
—	Olivia Garnes -	ditto - - -	Shaw Park -	13 11 2		
—	Susan Grant -	ditto - - -	New Hope -	25 18 4		
19 April -	Maria James -	ditto - - -	Great Pond -	- - -	25 11 2	
—	Emma Summers -	ditto - - -	Hiatt's-field -	- - -	25 11 2	
1 May -	Henry Ashmeade -	male, prædial u. -	Farm -	- - -	43 6 8	
6 —	Jane Allen -	female, prædial a. -	Shaw Park -	- - -	65 - -	
—	Caroline Spencer -	female, prædial u. -	Rockfield -	- - -	65 - -	
—	Cecilia Samuels -	fem., non-pr., domestic	Same -	- - -	11 13 4	
—	Mary Cunningham -	female, prædial u. -	Same -	- - -	21 13 4	
17 May -	Lucius Murphy -	male, prædial u. -	Bigg -	- - -	53 9 6	
31 —	Robert Francis -	male, prædial a. -	Orange Hill -	52 15 7		
7 June -	William James -	male, non-pr., domestic	James Jackson -	15 3 8		
21 —	Ann Shaw -	fem., non-pr., domestic	Shaw Park -	22 4 6		
—	Ann Heverin -	ditto - - -	Bread-nut Hill -	- - -	18 10 4	
—	William Rose -	male, prædial, mason	Twickenham Park	57 17 -		
24 June -	John Davis -	male, prædial u. -	Mount Plenty -	- - -	59 12 3	
—	Rosetta Bentley -	female, prædial u. -	Same -	51 1 10		
26 July -	John Small -	male, prædial a. -	Paradise -	- - -	40 - -	
—	Catherine Lawrence -	fem., non-pr., domestic	Gibraltar -	16 13 4		
—	Rebecca Hayden -	female, non-pr. washer.	Hiatt's-field -	20 - -		
—	Charlotte Smith -	female, prædial u. -	Castle Daly -	46 - -	4 - -	
TOTAL - - £.				1,197 2 3	1,303 1 3	

No refusal in any case to deduct one-third.

J. Woolfrys, Special Justice.

— 8. —

WORKHOUSE OF ST. ANDREW'S.

JAMAICA.

— No. 36. —

(No. 144.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K. C. B.,
to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 36.

My Lord,

King's House, 25 July 1837.

I HAVE the honour to enclose a letter from the late custos, Mr. Mais, of St. Andrew's, transmitting proceedings of inquiry into certain transactions in the house of correction of that parish; one affecting the death of Letitia Johnston, supposed to have died from ill-treatment in that institution, and another representing abuses carried on by the supervisor, who, as well as his assistants, have all been dismissed, and I hope for a better system in future.

Kingston, 20th
June 1837.

These papers were all referred to the Attorney-general; but I have received no answer, and can wait no longer, lest the circumstances should reach your Lordship from some other quarter.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Lionel Smith*.

Enclosure 1, in No. 36.

Enclosure 1,
in No. 36.

Sir,

Kingston, 20 June 1837.

IN conformity with the directions of his Excellency the Governor, the magistrates of St. Andrew's have inquired into the case of Letitia Johnston, and also into the several abuses said to exist in the house of correction. I enclose you a copy of the examinations taken thereon, and the decision of the magistrates. I return you the documents forwarded with your despatch.

I beg to add, that instructions have been given to carry into effect the suggestions contained in your circulars, Nos. 784 and 818, of the 13th and 16th May.

C. H. Darling, Esq., &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.

(signed) *John Mais*.

Enclosure 2, in No. 36.

Enclosure 2,
in No. 36.

JAMAICA Ss.—At a Meeting of the Magistrates of the Parish of *St. Andrew*, held at the Court House, Halfway Tree, this 25th day of May 1837, pursuant to notice, to inquire into several Abuses said to exist in the House of Correction.

Present:—Alexander Forbes, Robert Smith, Hinton East, James Wiles, William Robertson, Jasper F. Cargill, and Stephen Bourne, esqrs., and Mr. Special Justice Daly.

In a matter of Inquiry into the Case of *Alexander Sinclair* for certain unlawful Punishments, &c.

Alexander Sinclair, sworn.—Complaint against *Nelson*:—States that the first day he came into the house of correction Nelson chained him to a little boy; ordered them to take brooms and sweep the yard; said they were not going fast enough; took the cat and hit him and the little boy six licks each on their bare backs.

Nelson, having been called on for his defence, and, being duly sworn, admits that he gave Alexander Sinclair six licks, but not on his bare back; he was sulky, and grumbling, which induced him to give him six licks. A general order was given by Mr. Liddell not to go beyond six licks in or out of the house of correction.

Complaint against *Neptune*.

Alexander Sinclair, in continuation:—The second day went to Chancery Hall to dig cane-holes; *Neptune* told him that he did not dig the bank right; told *Neptune* he was not accustomed to dig cane-holes, as he belonged to a coffee plantation; *Neptune* said, “———”, I’ll have no fun with you; I’ll flog you to hell, for so long as you come from the same place as *Agnes Davis*, who had been the means of having another driver punished, I’ll have no fun with you;” and immediately called *Smith*, who, by his orders, gave him 12 licks. The same evening, after he returned from the workhouse, asked *Neptune* to let him take his blanket, and he gave him two severe blows on the back with his fist. The second Sunday they went down to *Hunt’s Bay* to wash; came into the tread-mill yard, and asked deponent what noise he was making, and immediately gave him two severe licks on his stomach; the blows were so severe that he went into the hospital immediately after he left the house of correction, and was there a whole week. While he was at Chancery Hall, had a severe pain in his bowels, and *Neptune* said he was not sick, but did not want to work. *Mr. Pringle* made *Neptune* chain him to a tree till breakfast-time, and then sent him home. *Mr. Palmes*, the overseer, said he was not sick, and put him to other work in the yard, drawing a cart to carry rubbish.

Neptune, having been here called upon for his defence, and, being duly sworn, states that *Alexander Sinclair* did not do his work as he ought to do, and he would not punish him, for fear it should be considered spiteful, but ordered *Smith* to lick him; told him to give him a dozen; denies that he struck him two blows on the back, but merely pushed him to go in with the others, as he was sulky, and would not move. Denies also that he gave two blows on the stomach, but states that *Alexander Sinclair* was making so much noise in the tread-mill-yard, that he collared him, and was conveying him to the stocks, but he begged him not to do it, and he let him go. Admits that *Alexander Sinclair* complained at Chancery Hall, and that he did chain him to a shady tree till breakfast-time, and then sent him home.

Mr. Justice Cargill here asked if it was customary to chain them to a tree.—States there was no person to watch him; he was chained to a tree for security, and to admit of the person to whom he was chained going on with his work.

Alexander Sinclair having here stated that *Neptune* gave him 12 licks more about an hour after *Smith* flogged him; denies most positively, and says he never licked him.

Thomas Hawes sworn:—States that *Neptune* ordered *Smith* to give *Alexander Sinclair* two licks, which he did on his shirt, but *Neptune* never flogged him.

Smith sworn:—States that he went for water about two hours after he flogged *Alexander Sinclair*, and when he returned found him singing and digging cane-holes with the rest of the gang; gave him only six licks.

William Liddell, supervisor, sworn:—States that, by the directions of the former special magistrates (Messrs. *Lloyd* and *Brownson**), the drivers had been permitted to give the prisoners, when they neglected their work, from one to six licks during the day, and, if they did not then attend to it, to lock them up and report their conduct to such special magistrates.

Mr. Daly being here asked, as a special magistrate, if he knew any instance in which this power had been delegated to a driver by a special justice, replied that he was not aware of any power having ever been given, or that it had ever been applied for, to a special justice; but gave as his opinion, that, when once a prisoner was committed to the house of correction, they were subject to the control of the local magistrates only.

The rest of the magistrates all coincided in this opinion, that prisoners in the house of correction were under the control of the local magistrates only, and subject to the regulations of the houses of correction, in conformity with the Act for regulating gaols and houses of correction, to which they take leave to refer, but more particularly to the 13th and 24th clauses.

Mr. Liddell here stated that no person had been laid down and flogged, but standing up, and that over their shirts.

There being no further evidence adduced at this stage of the business, the magistrates came to the following resolution: that *Alexander Sinclair* has proved to the satisfaction of the magistrates that he received on one occasion six lashes, and in another 12 lashes; and that it appears by the evidence of the supervisor that punishment to the extent of six lashes had been previously authorized by Special Justices *Lloyd* and *Brownson*. The remainder of *Alexander Sinclair*’s charges, as relates to himself, are not considered as proven, inasmuch as they have been contradicted on oath, and the said *Alexander Sinclair* has not supported the same by other evidence. The magistrates are of opinion that it is illegal to delegate to the drivers the power of inflicting corporal punishment, and therefore order it to be discontinued.

*Both of these magistrates were dismissed in March 1837.

To this Mr. Bourne dissented, and added that he considered Alexander Sinclair's case fully made out; but, inasmuch as there were other witnesses who were not present, he had failed in proving all.

The magistrates then adjourned till the 1st of June, and all witnesses ordered to be summoned for that day.

JAMAICA SS.—At an adjourned Meeting of the Magistrates for the Parish of *St. Andrew*, from Thursday the 25th day of May, held at the Court House, Halfway Tree, this 1st June 1837, pursuant to notice.

Present:—Alexander Forbes, James Wiles, Robert Smith, William Robertson, Hinton East, Robert Chisholm, Jasper F. Cargill, Diedrick Cooper, Charles M. Jopp, and Stephen Bourne, esqrs., and Mr. Special Justice Daly.

READ the Governor's despatch and affidavit of Alexander Sinclair, as well as the examination of the said Alexander Sinclair and others at the last meeting.

An affidavit of George Harris, overseer on Pleasant Hill, was here presented by Mr. Bourne, which was read.

Mr. Bourne proposed that the affidavit should be received and entered on the minutes, which was not seconded.

The magistrates being of opinion that it was frivolous and not at all to the purpose, the same was rejected and returned to Mr. Bourne.

John Clarke, a constable on Pleasant Hill, sworn:—States that his brother, Alex. Sinclair, came home from the house of correction on Tuesday evening; complained on Wednesday, and the overseer gave him medicine, but ordered him out to work on Thursday; did not go to work; did not see him the night he came up; Alexander Sinclair did not go to work in the field till Monday, but was not in the hospital on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday. Alexander Sinclair asked on Thursday to be bled, and the overseer sent him to Mr. M'Fie for that purpose. States that, when prisoners return from the house of correction, they invariably ask for a dose of salts to purge off the effects of the food given them in the house of correction. It has been an ancient practice. The rest of his evidence has gone only to state what complainant told him.

Being here asked what Alexander Sinclair was doing Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, states that he had told him that he had been to his ground and found everything knocked to pieces; knows that he did go to his ground, and worked there on these days.

Richard Henry, an apprentice to Chester Vale, sworn:—States that Alexander Sinclair was twice licked at Chancery Hall; once by Neptune, and once by Smith; only got six licks each time; never heard Alexander Sinclair say that he was not accustomed to dig cane-holes; the drivers made no distinction; they flogged the whole gang in the same way; did not see the driver beat anybody on their return from Hunt's Bay; nor did he hear any one complain of the driver having thumped them.

Alexander Sinclair here admitted that he had on one of the institution shirts.

The driver did not flog them on the bare back, but on the shirt; the shirt Alexander Sinclair had on was not a good shirt. The little boy that was chained to Alexander Sinclair was flogged like the rest; but denies that he was laid down and flogged with 10 licks on the bare back and rump, as stated in the affidavit of Alexander Sinclair.

William Smith, an apprentice to Dallas Castle, but now removed to Taylor's Caymanas, sworn:—States that he was removed with his own consent. Has connexions on Taylor's Caymanas; was in the St. Andrew's house of correction for a month; was chained to Alexander Sinclair. Neptune employed Smith to flog Alexander Sinclair twice; after that, laid deponent down and flogged him; did not flog him bad; gave him two or three licks; this was on the field at Chancery Hall; flogged most on the field; did not pick and choose, but flogged them generally; was chained to Alexander Sinclair; he was not flogged the first day he came into the yard; the second day he went to the field; once Neptune flogged him, and then sent Smith to flog him; flogged him twice; did not hear Neptune say anything about Agnes Davis; Neptune doubled his fist and thumped Alexander Sinclair on the back, on the Sunday after coming from Hunt's Bay; it was in the mill-yard; was chained to Alexander Sinclair at this time; was sometimes chained to the old man; Neptune said Alexander Sinclair was making a noise, but it was not him, and struck him two blows on the back; Alexander Sinclair never said he struck on the stomach; he said he was going to make a complaint when he came out; said, when he came out, he would make Mr. Bourne acquainted with it. The gang were singing, and Alexander Sinclair was singing also; did not tell any particular person that he was going to complain, but spoke it generally; complained once that his belly hurt him, was sent home and kept in the yard; did not see him chained to a tree; never heard that he, deponent, would be required to give evidence before to-day, nor has he seen Alexander Sinclair since, until he came into court.

JAMAICA.

The complaint of Alexander Sinclair having been fully heard, the magistrates came to the following resolutions ; viz.

The magistrates beg to observe, that, having allowed complainant a week to procure evidence, they consider that what he now produces is the best he can find. The new evidence is, in their opinion, inconclusive, as it only shows that Alexander Sinclair made certain statements on the property, the truth of which remains as uncertain as it was before ; and, indeed, it disproves that part of the evidence of the complainant which relates to his confinement in the hospital for a whole week.

To the Keeper of the House of Correction, St. Andrew's.

Receive into your custody the body of Alick Sinclair, an apprentice-labourer to Pleasant Hill plantation, this day, convicted on the oaths of John Clarke and George Harris on charges of insolence and insubordination, abusing the constable, and breaking out of the lock-up-house, and hereby sentenced to 10 days' hard labour in the house of correction.

Given under my hand and seal, this 30th March 1837.

C. Hamilton, S. J.

In a matter of Complaint respecting Ill-Usage to *Cecilia*, the Property of *Wm. Robertson*, Esq.

Lewis Campbell, an apprentice to *Joseph Kerr*, sworn :—States, knows *Cecilia*. Deponent was in the lock-up-room for trial ; was taken out to assist in strapping on *Cecilia* on the tread-mill ; was called several times to assist in strapping her on ; Mr. Palmes and the drivers were present ; Colonel Robertson was not there ; *Cecilia* would not go on the mill ; she was sulky ; did not observe that she was sick.

Mr. Robertson here admitted, that, as a magistrate, he attended at the house of correction, and found that *Cecilia*, who had been committed by Mr. Justice Daly to the house of correction for 14 days, was not undergoing her punishment, and ordered her to be strapped on the mill, as she refused to go on it ; but denies that he ever made use of the expressions attributed to him. The woman was a bad character ; had been absent from him seven months ; was formerly a convict in the St. Andrew workhouse, and purchased by Mr. Silvera, from whom, at her request, he purchased her. Could not now produce her, as she had been runaway ever since.

William Liddell sworn :—Was present when *Cecilia* was undergoing her punishment, every second day ; she was strapped on the mill. Mr. Lloyd and Mr. Brownson, special justices, authorized him to strap prisoners on the wheel when they refused to do it willingly. In obedience to these instructions he made it an invariable rule to adopt this measure. *Cecilia* was a bad character, very sulky ; never complained of being unwell, or in a state to prevent her from going through the labour of it.

Mr. Bourne here asked the witness if he recollected his calling at the house of correction, and observing that in his opinion it was illegal to strap them on the wheel.

Admitted, and said it had been ordered by Mr. Lloyd, but discontinued, until renewed by Mr. Brownson. Mr. Robertson was present on various occasions when *Cecilia* was strapped on the wheel, but never heard him make use of such language as attributed to him in the affidavit of Alexander Sinclair. Mr. Robertson has on many occasions given the prisoners money and nourishment. Never observed that *Cecilia's* breasts, or any part of her body, were bruised ; nor did she complain of it, or in any other way, except in general terms of her not being able to go on the wheel.

No decision.

In the Case of *M'Lean*, alias *Yacca-man*.

William Liddell sworn :—Did not order the man, called *Yacca-man*, to be sent out to work ; he was a sickly man, and to his knowledge never was out of the yard ; particularly as he had been committed by a local magistrate. To the best of his knowledge, between the 24th March and 15th April, the man *M'Lean*, alias the *Yacca-man*, never was sent out to work. Never saw a cut on his head.

Neptune sworn :—Remembers *M'Lean*, alias the *Yacca-man*, was in the workhouse the same time as Alexander Sinclair ; he never was sent out, except two or three times to carry breakfasts. Never saw Mr. Pringle beat him. Did not take the cat out of deponent's hand to beat him ; did not take the cat to beat any other person ; Mr. Pringle could
not

not have taken the cat to beat any person without his knowledge. Yacca was a poor weakly man, and never had a hoe put in his hand while in the house of correction.

Thomas William Gordon, a convict, sworn:—States that the man named M'Lean, *alias* the Yacca-man, was chained to a little boy belonging to some person in Kingston, and was at work at Chancery Hall. Was there the same time Alexander Sinclair was in the house of correction; he was an old man and sickly. Mr. Pringle ordered Neptune to give him six licks; did not lay him down; flogged him standing up. The old man said he was not able to dig cane-holes, and Mr. Pringle ordered him to cut cane-tops. Mr. Pringle did not strike him or flog him. Saw no marks of blows on the head. He slept next to witness in the same room, and if he had been beaten must have known it. The old man complained only of his bowels. Did not see his head smashed; if it had been so he must have known it. M'Lean, *alias* Yacca-man, was at work for a week or 10 days.

Alexander Sinclair having, in addition to his affidavit, stated to the court that Mr. Palmes had dragged the Yacca-man into the room, and thrown him down on his face and injured him, deponent states that he never saw anything of the kind, and that had it occurred he must of necessity have known it.

Richard Henry sworn:—Asked if he saw Pringle beat M'Lean, *alias* Yacca-man, to which he replied, No, never saw Mr. Pringle flog him or any other person. He was in the field at Chancery Hall at work; Yacca was chained to a little boy; dug cane-holes, but, finding he could not keep up with the others, was put to light work; worked for some time, but afterwards brought breakfast to the field.

Mr. *Palmes*, overseer in the workhouse, sworn:—Remembers M'Lean, *alias* the Yacca-man; did not go out to work, nor put on the tread-mill; sometimes carried out breakfast; to the best of his knowledge he never carried a hoe in the field. Was sentenced by the local magistrates. Was a poor sickly man, and constantly begging to get away. Yacca-man never was troublesome. Sometimes Mr. Liddell and sometimes deponent turned out the people to work. Never turned him out to work. Yacca-man was not chained to any other person when about the yard; but when he went with breakfast he was chained to others to prevent his escaping.

Mr. *Pringle*, assistant, sworn:—Knows Yacca-man; he was a little old man; never saw him work in the field; sometimes took out breakfast; never saw him cut cane-tops or grass. Does not recollect that he ever did anything else than carrying out the breakfast. Does not recollect that he was ever chained to another person.

William Smith, an apprentice to Dallas Castle, sworn:—Knows the Yacca-man; he was a little old man; saw Neptune flog him all about the head in the yard; flogged him with the cord and not with the stick. Sometimes Yacca-man worked in the field; dug cane-holes; sometimes brought breakfast; was in the workhouse before Yacca-man came in; he was strapped on the mill; the old man was not able to dance the mill, and they put him in the dark-hole. After he came out of the dark-hole was sent to the field; Yacca-man was chained to a boy named William; does not know to whom he belongs; was digging cane-holes at Chancery Hall; when he was not able to dig cane-holes, made him cut bush; cut it every day. Old Phillip generally brought breakfast; sometimes Phillip came alone, sometimes with a little boy; previous to going out to the field he used to carry out breakfast; when Yacca worked in the field he did not carry out breakfast; saw Mr. Pringle flog Yacca-man, but never saw him beat him with the cat-stick; took the cat out of driver's hand to flog him. Mr. Pringle flogged Yacca-man till he fell down, and then flogged him till he got up again; Yacca-man and the boy William were laid down and flogged.

Final Decision:—The magistrates are of opinion that a sufficient mass of evidence has been adduced to establish the fact of various abuses having existed in the house of correction, and of the orders of the magistrates, both special and local, having been disregarded, they have therefore unanimously resolved upon the dismissal of the present supervisor and his assistants, and strict enforcement of the existing regulations, thereby to prevent a repetition of such abuses.

With respect to what has been adduced respecting Messrs. Lloyd and Brownson, the magistrates have to remark that it rests on the sole assertion of the supervisor, Mr. Liddell, which they do not consider sufficient, in the absence of those gentlemen, to fix the charge.

(signed) *Alex. Forbes*,
Chairman of the Workhouse Committee.

JAMAICA.

Enclosure 3, in No. 36.

Enclosure 3,
in No. 36.

JAMAICA SS.—At a Meeting of the Magistrates of the Parish of *St. Andrew*, held at the Court House, Halfway Tree, this 25th day of May, pursuant to notice, to inquire into several Abuses said to exist in the House of Correction.

Present:—Alexander Forbes, Robert Smith, James Wiles, Hinton East, William Robertson, Jasper F. Cargill, and Stephen Bourne, esqrs., and Mr. Special Justice Daly.

READ the Governor's despatch and the affidavit of Alexander Sinclair, as well as the Inquisition, &c.

In a matter of Inquiry into the Case of *Letitia Johnston*, who died shortly after her discharge from the House of Correction.

William Liddell, supervisor of the house of correction, sworn:—Produced the commitment of *Letitia Johnston*; it is dated 12th April 1837. Recollects *Letitia Johnston* having been brought into the house of correction; deceased was visited by the doctor of the institution on the 15th, but her name is not entered on the hospital book; did not consider the woman required medicine. The deceased had no punishment whatever inflicted, nor was she ever sent out to work; she was in a weakly state, but never came up to the medical man but on the one occasion.

It being considered necessary to have further testimony, and Mr. Palmes being ill in bed, a committee, consisting of Messrs. Cargill and Daly, went to the house of correction to examine him, and returned with the following affidavit; viz.—*Vide Affidavit*.

Mr. Liddell denied that she had been on the tread-mill or worked in the penal gang.

Robert Pringle sworn:—Knew *Letitia Johnston*; does not remember the day she came in, but saw her in the evening of that day. The deceased went out to work one day in the penal gang on the road below Waterhouse; the gang is regulated in the evening by Mr. Liddell; the day she went out to work was the day previous to her discharge; never knew her to be put on the tread-mill; is generally out with the gang and knows little of what is going on in the yard. The deceased complained of her legs; never worked more than one day; went out looking better than when she came in; Dr. Thompson said that the woman was always in that general state of health. It has sometimes happened that people have been sent out to work by mistake, but Mr. Liddell has sent out and brought them home.

James Martin, an apprentice to Miss Asher, sworn:—Remembers *Letitia Johnston*; heard she died after leaving the workhouse; came into the workhouse about eight o'clock at night; she was poorly when she came in; was on the mill two spells in one day, and was one day in the penal gang; does not recollect the days, but thinks that after she had been out with gang; was three days in the workhouse before she was discharged. Mr. Liddell ordered that she was not to be worked; this was two or three days after she had been in the workhouse; never heard that Mr. Liddell had ordered her off the mill. Mr. Liddell read the commitment to deponent, and told him she was not for labour till the doctor saw her. Mr. Liddell has often blamed deponent for sending out people to work contrary to orders, and has sent to bring them back.

It having appeared to the magistrates that more material witnesses might be obtained, they accordingly agreed to adjourn over till the 1st June following, and in the meantime ordered summonses to be prepared for such parties as should be notified as being able to afford any further information.

JAMAICA SS.—Mr. *Liddell*, Halfway Tree House of Correction.

Receive into your custody *Letitia Johnston*, apprentice on Content, and keep her to such hard labour as the medical gentleman attending the prison thinks her fit to perform, for 14 days, she having been convicted before me, on the oaths of Mr. Aaron Smith and Alexander Davison, with having been absent from Content for 18 days.

Given under my hand and seal this 12th day of April 1837.

(signed) *Stephen Bourne*, (L. S.)

House of Correction, *St. Andrew's*, 25 May 1837.

William Palmes sworn:—States that *Letitia Johnston* was brought to the workhouse some time in April, about two o'clock in the day; Mr. Liddell saw the commitment; she was put on the tread-wheel that evening; the following day she was sent to the penal gang, and the day after she was put on the tread-wheel again, and on Mr. Liddell coming in about four o'clock, and on seeing her, ordered her off. The doctor saw her about two days after; she then remained about the yard until dismissed. She was not worse on leaving the institution

institution than when she came in; did not read the commitment; was not aware that an order had been given not to place her to hard labour until seen by the doctor.

Mr. Liddell said she was for penal gang and tread-wheel; Mr. Liddell saw her on the tread-wheel and ordered her off; is certain of it.

(signed) *Wm. Palmes.*

Sworn before us, this 25th May 1837,

(signed) *R. Daly, S. J.*
Jasper F. Cargill.

JAMAICA.

Enclosure 4, in No. 36.

JAMAICA SS.—At an adjourned Meeting of the Magistrates of the Parish of *St. Andrew*, from Thursday the 25th day of May, held at the Court House this 1st day of June 1837, pursuant to notice.

Enclosure 4,
in No. 36.

Present:—Alexander Forbes, James Wiles, Robert Smith, William Robertson, Hinton East, Robert Chisholm, Jasper F. Cargill, Diedrick Cooper, Charles M. Jopp, and Stephen Bourne, esqrs., and Mr. Special Justice Daly.

READ the Governor's despatch and affidavit of Alexander Sinclair, as well as the examination of the said Alexander Sinclair and others at the last meeting.

William Robinson Hamilton, to Enfield, sworn:—Is a sickly man, and watches the coffee-store. Remembers the night Letitia Johnston came out of the workhouse; was going to Content, but was late, and begged him to let her stop till morning. Allowed her to stop; gave her something to eat; cried all night. Asked her what was the matter; said she was sick and her belly swell. Did not say that she had been worked on the tread-mill; only cried for pains in the bottom of her belly and stomach. Said she never was in the workhouse before, and the corn-meal and raw shad that she eat made her bottom belly hurt her and her skin swell. Went away the next morning before six o'clock, and did not go above half a mile before she died. The night she was with him she eat cocoa and plantain that he gave her, and the shad she had brought with her from the workhouse. She drank water after she was done; eat heartily, and said, that when she went home she would tell all her fellow-servants to take care of the workhouse, for it was too hot.

It having been here mentioned that Mr. Palmes, whose deposition had been taken on the 25th of May, was fearful that from the state of fever he might not have been quite correct in his evidence, it was agreed on to re-examine him.

Mr. *Palmes* sworn:—States that Letitia Johnston came in on the 13th April. Heard that she died after leaving the institution. Came in on a Thursday, about candlelight. Was put on the tread-mill twice the next day, Friday; was told by Mr. Liddell that she was for the penal gang and tread-mill. He did not tell deponent to show Letitia Johnston to the doctor. Did not hear the commitment read; Mr. Liddell generally reads the commitment to him. Heard him reading a commitment whilst he was going to lock her up; Mr. Liddell was not reading the commitment to him. Was never on the tread-mill after the first day. Was on the tread-mill when Mr. Liddell came in, who ordered her off. Was one day in the penal gang. The day before she went out the doctor saw Letitia Johnston, on Saturday 15th.

Ann Taylor, to Peter's Rock, sworn:—Remembers Letitia Johnston; was in the workhouse when she was there. Heard that she died the day after she left the workhouse. Brought her from the field, and put her on the tread-mill; was put with her on the tread-mill. Complained that her foot was swelled, and hurt her; Palmes and the driver were there. The next day the doctor came. Letitia Johnston came up, but the doctor said she was not sick. She was very sick. When she and deponent went into the privy, Letitia Johnston lifted up her clothes and showed her how all her skin was swollen. Letitia Johnston came in at night, and went to the field next morning, but was brought back sick. Deponent and Letitia Johnston were strapped on the tread-mill together.

Decision:—The magistrates are of opinion that the treatment of Letitia Johnston was improper, and not according to the commitment, but do not apprehend her death was caused thereby. They consider that the conduct of the supervisor has been highly improper, and his evidence equivocal and completely contradicted by that of other persons.

Alex. Forbes,
Chairman of the Workhouse Committee.

JAMAICA.

Enclosure 5, in No. 36.

Enclosure 5,
in No. 36.CORONER'S INQUEST held at Gordon's Tavern on the Body of *Letitia Johnston*, Apprentice
to Content Plantation, 29 April 1837.

Jury composed of—Foreman, Stephen Bourne; John E. Hoare, James M'Fie, Solomon R. Da Costa, Patrick Kenny, Joseph H. Kemble, William Fitzgerald, George Nisbett, George Ross, Richard Bownes, Charles Lowlanie, and George Sully.

Dr. *Alexander Dallas* sworn:—From the external appearance of *Letitia Johnston*, I think there has been no violence used towards her. The general health of the woman was good, but she had a bad foot. She run away from Content for five or six weeks. During the time she was away, I met her going to Kingston with a large load on her head. I have no doubt that she died in a fit, but I cannot be positive. I remember the 11th of April; it was the day on which she was tried by Mr. Bourne for running away, and theft: it appeared to me that the case was perfectly proved against her. I examined her before she was committed, and gave it as my opinion that she was perfectly fit to go to prison. I see nothing on her body indicative of violence used towards her in prison.

(signed) *Alexander Dallas.*

Mr. *William Arrowsmith*, overseer of Content, sworn:—*Letitia Johnston* run away the beginning of March; I received a warrant from Special Justice Bourne to take her up. On the 7th of April the constable saw her in town with a heavy load; he lodged her in the cage, and brought her home on the 8th. She was confined till the 11th, when Mr. Bourne came to the property, and committed her to the house of correction for 14 days. On the 12th I gave the constable the commitment to take. She refused to go; but Mr. Lowe, a magistrate, gave her in charge to the police. She left in apparent good health, and walked down very well. During the sitting of the court, an offer was made, that if she would get her family to stand security for her to pay the days, she would not be sent to prison. They said they would sooner see her die; they would not pay the days. She is a woman of a bad character, and has once before been sent to prison. During the time of her confinement no member of her family came to me to state she was ill and to solicit her discharge. The commitment particularly stated she was to be put to such work as the doctor of the workhouse thought fit.

(signed) *William Arrowsmith.*

Jessy Barnet sworn:—I live at Enfield. Thursday evening *Letitia* came to me and asked me for a place to stop that night; she said her feet hurt her, and she had a pain in the bowels. She said she would stop and help me iron the clothes to-morrow; but I recommended her to go home, as she had just come from the workhouse. *William Hamilton*, an apprentice to Clifton Mount, watching at Enfield Ben, told me in the morning that *Letitia* had been crying all night about her feet and pain in the bowels.

(signed) *Jessy Barnet* her
×
mark.

Verdict:—Found dead on Friday morning, the 29th instant, on the public road, on her way home from Halfway-Tree workhouse; the immediate cause of her death unknown, no proof having been adduced to the jury to show that the deceased died in consequence of any violence or ill-treatment.

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Alexander Sinclair, apprentice on Pleasant Hill, in the parish of St. Andrew, maketh oath and saith:—That he, this deponent, was sent to Halfway Tree, by Mr. Special Justice Hamilton, for 10 days, to hard labour, in consequence of disobedience of orders, the latter end of March last past. The first day he was there, a man, named Nelson, chained him to a little boy, and flogged him six licks with the cat on his bare back. The following day this deponent went to Chancery Hall to dig cane-holes. Neptune, another driver, said, that as long as he came from the same place as *Agnes Davis*, who caused the magistrate to have another driver flogged, did, he would flog the soul out of him, and he did not care what came; he directly flogged him 12 licks with the cat. Deponent began to cry, when he, Neptune, came back, and gave him 12 other licks, and told him, deponent, that, if that was not sufficient for him, he would give him more. Deponent saw the same driver, Neptune, lay a little boy, who was chained to him from Dallas Castle, down on his belly, and flog him 10 lashes on his back and rump.

Deponent moreover states, that he saw a number of men flogged with the cat by the same driver, and an old man from Mr. Marshall's, named York. A man was flogged in his presence by Mr. Pringle, a brown man, who follows the gang in the field; he was flogged till he tumbled down on the ground, and was not able to get up. When Mr. Pringle saw this, he said, "Aye, you won't get up," and struck him on the head twice with the cat-stick, until his head began to bleed. On the second Sunday that deponent was at Halfway Tree, after he had come from Hunt's Bay, where the prisoners

went

went to wash, as he was standing up chained to the boy in the prison-yard, the driver, Neptune, came up to him, and struck him with his fist twice in the stomach, in consequence of which he, deponent, was obliged to stand for a whole week in the hospital, after he came back to Pleasant Hill, and to take medicine, before he could go to work again.

Deponent further saith, that whilst he was working on the tread-mill, a woman, named Cecilia, belonging to Colonel Robertson, fell off the mill. The driver called this deponent to shove her up; deponent begged him to send a woman to help her, as she was not well, it was not right with her. The driver, James Usher, said to him, "D—n ————, if you do not do it, I will serve you the same." Colonel Robertson came into the place, and said, if the woman won't dance the mill, they must strap her on, which they did; a man belonging to Mr. Anderson strapped her on. The woman was bruised on her breasts, and her hand swollen with the tread-mill, so that she was not able to go to the mill the next day, and she was put into the cell. Mr. Liddell, seeing the people strapped on the mill, quarrelled with Mr. Palm, the busha, and said he should be brought into court, and not able to stand. The busha said he could not help it, as Colonel Robertson had ordered him to strap them on. When Colonel Robertson saw that the woman fell off the mill, he said, "Aye, what, you won't dance the mill; I will let you smell hell." Whilst deponent was at Halfway-Tree prison, he was ill one day in the field. The busha took him away from the gang, and chained him to a tree. No doctor attended him in the prison; and Mr. Pringle said there was nothing the matter with him. From that day deponent went in to the day he came out, he never saw any doctor attending any of the prisoners, but might have done so when he was in the field.

(signed) Alexander Sinclair +
his mark.

Sworn before us, this 6th day of May 1837,

(signed) Stephen Bourns, S. J. of the Peace.
R. Daly, Secretary.

— No. 37. —

(No. 141.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor
Sir *Lionel Smith*, K. C. B.

No. 37.

Sir,

Downing-street, 15 September 1837.

I HAVE received your despatch, No. 144, of the 25th July last, enclosing a letter from the late custos of St. Andrew's, with the proceedings of inquiry into certain transactions in the house of correction of that parish. As you have very properly referred all these papers to the Attorney-general, I shall not enter into the particulars of the cases contained in them, until his report has been received. In the meantime, I will merely say that I cannot, for a moment, doubt the necessity which existed for the immediate removal of the supervisor and his assistants, a step which, I am very happy to find, was taken without delay.

I have also to thank you for transmitting to me these papers without waiting for the Attorney-general's report, as it is very useful to me to be in possession of the official reports of any such cases, although perhaps incomplete, by the earliest opportunity, instead of receiving information of them, in the first instance, from other quarters.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

— No. 38. —

(No. 170.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K. C. B.,
to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 38.

The King's House, Spanish Town,
4 September 1837.

My Lord,

I HAVE great gratification in forwarding, for your Lordship's perusal and information, the enclosed copy of the Dispatch newspaper, containing an account of the

JAMAICA.

the proceedings in the case of *M'Vicar v. Liddell*, a civil action tried at the last Kingston assizes.

This action was consequent on the investigation held at St. Andrew's work-house, reported to your Lordship in my despatch, No. 144, of the 25th of last July.

The plaintiff, *M'Vicar*, being a free black man, and sentenced to confinement in the workhouse of the parish, was put on the tread-mill by the supervisor, *Liddell* (who has since been dismissed from his situation), without an order from any magistrate; and this action being brought, he was cast in damages 30*l*.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Lionel Smith*.

Enclosure in No. 38.

Surrey Assize Court, Thursday, 17 August 1837.

Enclosure in
No. 38.

Court:—The Hon. Sir Joshua Rowe, Chief Justice; Hon. John Mais and Hon. Hector Mitchel, Assistant Judges.

M'Vicar v. Liddell.

Mr. Batty, for plaintiff, stated this was an action of trespass, to recover damages against defendant, who, in his duty as supervisor of the house of correction, had maltreated the plaintiff, by placing him on the tread-mill, and also for putting a collar and chain on the neck of plaintiff. The commitment sentenced the plaintiff to hard labour in the house of correction.

D. Cooper, esq., sworn:—Recollects *M'Vicar* being brought before him and Mr. John Gordon for an assault on Mr. Hilton; *M'Vicar* was sentenced to hard labour in St. Andrew's house of correction for 30 days; it was the intention of himself and the other magistrate, that the plaintiff should be put upon the tread-mill, but not that the collar and chain should be put upon his neck.

Cross-examined by Mr. Panton.—Knows Mr. Hilton is bed-ridden; a sword-stick was produced on the examination of *M'Vicar*; it was bent, and was taken from *M'Vicar* by Mr. Hilton's servants; he considered it was a very aggravated case of assault; defendant was bound to deal with persons sent to the house of correction as the magistrates ordered.

Cross-examined by the Attorney-general.—The evidence on the examination was, that Mr. Hilton was heard to cry out murder, and that plaintiff was seen to be riding away with the sword-stick; plaintiff had been clerk to Mr. Hilton; he was stopped by the servants, who took the sword-stick from him.

Robert Pringle, sworn:—Was employed as overseer of the house of correction; saw *M'Vicar* in custody there on a Sunday; he was there 20 days; knows he was put on the tread-mill, for 15 minutes at a spell, every alternate quarter of an hour; saw the collar and chain put on *M'Vicar*'s neck; the chain was taken off when he was put upon the mill; Mr. *Liddell* gave witness orders to put *M'Vicar* on the tread-mill; while he was in the house of correction, he was kept within the walls; saw him but once with the chain on his neck; *M'Vicar*'s conduct was mild and peaceable; saw *M'Vicar* chained to a black person in the house of correction.

Cross-examined by Mr. Panton.—Defendant treated plaintiff very kindly, and lent him money; plaintiff took his dinner with Mr. Palm, one of the officers of the house of correction; other persons had collars on; it was no particular mark of punishment; plaintiff was worked on the tread-mill according to the existing rules of the institution.

Cross-examined by Mr. Attorney-general.—Defendant told witness not to show favour or affection to any person, but to treat every person alike; plaintiff was not kept half-an-hour on the tread-mill while witness was there; Mr. Palm asked *M'Vicar* to dine with him; *M'Vicar* is a decent man; he showed witness marks of blood upon the ground; heard that plaintiff was sick from working on the tread-mill.

— *Neptune*, sworn:—Is boatswain to the house of correction; *M'Vicar* was brought there on Sunday evening; *Liddell* told witness plaintiff was to dance the mill; it was in January last. *Liddell* ordered witness to put collar and chain on *M'Vicar*; the next day he was put on the mill; does not know how long he was on, as they had no glass there; was kept on and off the mill all day; saw plaintiff spit blood on the Thursday after he came into the house; told Mr. Palm that *M'Vicar* was sick, but he was kept on the tread-mill three days after that time; *Liddell* came to the house of correction every day to see how everything was going on; *M'Vicar* was chained to a man (an apprentice), sent from the mountain, belonging to Mr. Dallas, also to dance the mill; *M'Millan* was put the first night into

into the prison-room with other prisoners; the third night he was put into another room up stairs; M'Vicar swept the yard with the chain on his neck; he was not worked on a Thursday; he was put up stairs on that day; he only worked on the mill three days; the collar was kept on his neck all the time he was in the house of correction, but the chain was taken off.

Cross-examined by Mr. Panton.—Does not remember if Mr. Mais came to the house of correction at that time; swears positively the collar was kept on all the 20 days; Mr. Palm first ordered him to be put on tread-mill; Mr. Liddell caused him to be locked up stairs away from the other prisoners; Liddell did not know he had spit blood; he was not put upon the tread-mill after Tuesday, but knew he was on that day; Liddell ordered the chain to be taken off; heard Liddell find fault with Mr. Palm on Wednesday for having put the chain and collar on; Liddell was very good to M'Vicar all the time he was there; Liddell was always very kind.

Examined by Mr. Batty.—M'Vicar did not have chain and collar on a week; Liddell treated him well all the time he was there; does not know if Palm or Liddell said that M'Vicar was spitting blood; after two nights he was removed to a better place than where the convicts are confined.

Hugh MacWilliam, sworn:—Has been an overseer in several parishes; knows Mr. Henderson; Mr. M'Vicar was overseer to Mr. Henderson's gang; knows he was in the employ of Mr. Hilton; has known plaintiff four or five years; knew him as a confidential servant to Dr. Ware; he dunned for the young; before that he was in the employ of Lord Belmore; was always a quiet, respectable doer man; was in good health before, but after he came out of the house of correction was in very bad health.

Cross-examined by Mr. Panton.—Did not know what capacity plaintiff was in with Lord Belmore; heard he was clerk to Mr. Hilton; had seen Dr. Ware place a great deal of confidence in him; does not know Mr. Hilton.

Mr. Panton, for the defence, called

Dr. *William Thompson*, sworn:—Was medical attendant at the house of correction; was in attendance when M'Vicar was confined; examined the state of his health; stated he was sick; it was in January; said he was spitting blood for a short time, but would not allow anything to be done to him; two days afterwards he stated, when he passed water he also passed large quantities of blood; Liddell was there at the time. M'Vicar was not dressed as the other convicts; took him for an overseer; he had no collar on; appeared to be separated from the convicts; attended the institution often; Liddell was very kind to the convicts; if any particular mode of diet was ordered, Liddell gave directions about it. Could not perceive any cause of sickness, nor any signs of his passing blood; he examined him very particularly.

Cross-examined by the Attorney-general.—Examined plaintiff's urine carefully, but saw no signs of blood in it; never heard any complaints against Mr. Liddell; heard he was dismissed; but knows not the cause, nor the nature of the charges that were made against him. Speaks of Liddell's kindness from what he has seen; also from what he has heard from the inmates of the house of correction.

By Mr. Panton:—The people always expressed themselves well treated by Mr. Liddell.

The conviction of M'Vicar and also an order from the Hon. Custos to Mr. Liddell, ordering M'Vicar not to be again put on the tread-mill, dated 21st January.

The Hon. *John Mais*:—An application was made to witness complaining of Mr. Liddell's conduct, saying that M'Vicar had been chained and put upon the tread-mill. Wrote to Mr. Liddell to discontinue putting M'Vicar on the tread-mill, and to take off the chain; had given orders to Mr. Liddell to attend strictly to orders given by magistrates. A few days after saw M'Vicar in the house of correction, and spoke sharply to Mr. Liddell, who said that he was obliged to put him on the mill by the commitment sentencing him to hard labour, and to put the collar and chain on, as several convicts had escaped. M'Vicar then came up and said to witness, "Do not blame Mr. Liddell, he has been like a father to me; he has lent me money and clothes, and given me food;" and repeated, "Mr. Liddell has been a father to me;" did not interfere in the matter of the charges against Mr. Liddell; appointed a committee to do so. Witness considers if Mr. Liddell did err it was from mistaken notions, but not from a desire of overstraining the law.

Cross-examined by the Attorney-general.—Appointed Mr. Forbes, as president of the committee, to examine the institution; heard complaints brought against Mr. Liddell, who was discharged; was angry because, having looked at the commitment, it was not stated in it that Mr. Vicar was to be put on the tread-mill, and therefore thought he ought not to have been put on it. Spoke severely to Liddell; said, "You had no business to put this man on the mill, unless it was expressed in the commitment;" and told Liddell never to again do so.

John Fowles, esq., sworn:—Has inspected the house of correction; it is under the management of a committee; was visiting magistrate in January; saw M'Vicar there, who said he had been put on the tread-mill, and a chain and collar put on his neck; but that

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Mr. Liddell was not to blame; he had given him food and money, and had been a father to him; had not a collar on at that time; was decently dressed; looked clean and well; did not complain of being sick.

John Ashburn, sworn:—Knows M^rVicar and Liddell; remembers former being in house of correction in January, and he then spoke very highly of Mr. Liddell's conduct to him, and said he had behaved very kindly; had given him food and money, and said he was not disposed to proceed against Mr. Liddell, but against the magistrates; witness went to the house of correction with a feeling against Mr. Liddell, but it was entirely removed by what M^rVicar had stated.

Cross-examined by Attorney-general.—M^rVicar thought he had been oppressed by the magistrates; M^rVicar did not complain against Liddell, but against the magistrates; M^rVicar was very loud in his praise of Mr. Liddell.

Mr. Panton addressed the jury for defendant in his usual eloquent manner.

His Honor the Attorney-general replied with much feeling.

His Honor the Chief charged the jury very perspicuously.

The jury retired, and, after being out of court one hour, returned a verdict for plaintiff, damages 30*l*.

— No 39. —

(No. 174.)

No. 39. COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*,
K. C. B.

Sir,

Downing-street, 28 October 1837.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 170, of the 4th September, enclosing an account of the proceedings in a civil action, "M^rVicar *v*. Liddell," which had been tried at the Kingston assizes.

It is very gratifying to me to receive the proof, supplied by the enclosure to this despatch, of the impartial administration of justice in a case in which there may have been room for the influence of local prepossessions to the prejudice of the party by whom the action was brought.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

— No. 40. —

(No. 166.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B., to
Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Spanish Town, 24 August 1837.

No. 40.

AT the late Surrey assizes Mr. Dundas, overseer of Molynes Estate, was sentenced to two months' imprisonment for ill-treating an apprentice. This case was connected with the evil practices of Mr. Lloyd and Captain Brownson, and when they were suspended, Mr. Dundas was ordered to be prosecuted.

At the same assizes Mr. Colin Chisholm, a considerable proprietor and attorney, was fined 100 *l.* for an assault on Mr. Special Justice Bourne. It was on some old grudge against Mr. Bourne for having imprisoned his book-keeper, and which your Lordship will have in recollection led to a tedious prosecution against Mr. Bourne.

These instances of successful prosecutions against cruelty and violence have been very gratifying to me, as examples of useful influence.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Lionel Smith*.

— No. 41. —

(No. 164.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B.

Sir,

Downing-street, 12 October 1837.

No. 41.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 166, of the 24th of August, reporting the result of certain trials which had taken place at the Surrey assize in Jamaica.

I participate in the satisfaction which you express at the proof which is afforded by these proceedings, of the equal administration of justice in cases where local influences might be supposed to have been most unfavourable to such a result. I cannot avoid adding, that I ascribe this result in no small degree to the moral impression of the even-handed justice which the local government dispenses to all parties.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

PRISON DISCIPLINE.

— No. 42. —

(No. 130.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B.

Sir,

Downing-street, 25 August 1837.

In my circular Despatch of the 1st instant, I transmitted to you a copy of the Report of the Committee of the House of Commons of last session on Negro Apprenticeship.

You will have observed from it, that the Committee, for the reasons which they have stated, did not feel themselves warranted in reporting to The House the evidence which they had received, nor in expressing any general opinion upon it.

Although, under these circumstances, it would be improper and contrary to a rule founded on a principle of obvious utility that publicity should be given to this evidence, I feel it my duty to communicate to you a copy of it, printed for the use of the Members of the Committee, having the fullest confidence in your discretion as to the use which you will make of it. I place it in your hands that you may be aware of the nature and particulars of the information on which the recommendation of the Committee has been founded, and that you may be enabled to take such measures as are within your reach for investigating and remedying any abuses actually existing in any of the gaols or workhouses in Jamaica, and which may not already have been brought under your notice.

I have learned with much satisfaction from your Despatch of the 12th June, No. 128, that you have yourself recently inspected the greater part of these buildings, and had found them in most instances well regulated, and under a careful supervision, from which the special magistrates are by no means excluded; and I attach much importance to the measures which you had in contemplation for obtaining such modifications of the existing rules as appeared to you desirable.

At the same time, the subject is, as is observed by the Committee, so intimately connected with the working of the apprenticeship system, on which so warm an interest is justly felt by the public in this country, and on which the British people have a right to the fullest and most authentic information, that Her Majesty's Government have felt it their duty to appoint a gentleman for the express purpose of making an inspection of the gaols and workhouses in the West Indies, and reporting their state and condition to the Government.

Captain Pringle, formerly an officer in the engineers, and who since his retirement from the army has been on several occasions employed by the Government in a civil capacity, has been selected for this employment, and will probably leave England for Jamaica in the course of next month. He will be the bearer of a letter from me to yourself, and a copy of his instructions will also be communicated to you. I have assured him that he will receive from you all the information and assistance which you can afford him in the discharge of the duty with which he will be entrusted.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

— No. 43. —

(No. 190.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B., to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 43.

My Lord,

Spanish Town, 13 October 1837.

Lord *Glenelg*;

No. 130.

25 August 1837.

IN acknowledging the honour of your Lordship's Letter, No. 130, I shall take good care and use the Report alluded to with guarded discretion, until it is finally

finally

finally available for reply, as far as any of my own measures may require explanation.

The inquiries your Lordship some time since called for respecting the state of the prisons and workhouses are in progress, but it will take a long time before they can be collected and put into intelligible form. It is therefore a source of sincere pleasure to me to hear of the appointment of Captain Pringle to report specially on the capacity of those buildings.

I hope your Lordship did not infer from my Despatch of the 12th June last, that the state of our prisons and workhouses possessed my entire approbation; one of the many evils of slavery has been the neglect of all such buildings beyond the immediate object of personal security, for they were not resorted to as places for the punishment and reform of prisoners, because the individual power of masters over slaves gave them more prompt means of punishment without incurring the expense of prison maintenance, or the loss of labour.

All the prisons of the West Indies will, for these reasons, be found bad compared to similar institutions in free countries, but relatively those of this island are not generally so bad as those of other colonies; and I have visited the dungeons and cells of every prison in the island except St. Dorothy's, St. John's, Vere, and Clarendon, which I hope to inspect in January.

In every instance where I had occasion to find fault, the custodes and magistrates on the part of the vestries promised to improve the buildings, still they can never be assimilated to European prisons without being rebuilt or greatly enlarged.

The three county prisons are maintained at the general charge of the island, and the last grand jury for the county of Cornwall made a strong presentment through me against the Montego Bay prison, which is certainly one of the worst. The House of Assembly will, I anxiously hope, order its complete repair and improvement this session.

The parochial prisons are all under the vestries, and their means of improvement are of course more difficult and uncertain under the constant plea of poverty, but when Captain Pringle arrives, and can furnish us with plans of new prisons, or for the enlargement and improvement of those we have, I shall be sanguine of the most beneficial changes.

I shall also in the course of this session endeavour to procure the appointment of county inspectors of prisons, to have complete power over all the officers and interior management, independent of any other authority than my own, as the only means of maintaining one uniform system of supervision and responsibility.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Lionel Smith.*

— No. 44. —

(No. 133.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B.

Sir,

Downing-street, 13 September 1837.

No. 44.

THIS Despatch will be delivered to you by Captain Pringle, who, I informed you, in my Despatch of the 25th ultimo, had been appointed to inspect and report on the state of the prisons and workhouses in the West India Colonies. I enclose for your information a copy of the instructions which have been addressed to Captain Pringle by my directions, and I have to signify to you Her Majesty's commands that you will afford him all the support and assistance in your power in the performance of the duty with which he has been entrusted.

You will furnish Captain Pringle as soon as possible with a statement of the several prisons and workhouses in Jamaica, with their respective localities, and you will give such directions to any of the officers of the Government with whom he may have occasion to communicate, as will insure to him their aid and co-operation whenever it may be necessary. It will probably be expedient, in order to facilitate his inquiries, that he should hold a local commission as a magistrate, and I have therefore to recommend that you will confer upon him such a commission, whether special or ordinary, as may best insure him that degree of authority which will enable him to prosecute his inquiries with efficiency and success. You will further explain fully to Captain Pringle

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the nature and extent of the authority with which such commission will invest him.

I have also to request that you will allow one of the officers of the medical staff to accompany him in the inspection of the several prisons in Jamaica, if he should require such assistance.

I am aware that much of the information which it is of importance that he should acquire, can best be obtained by the examination of parties who cannot be compelled to answer the questions which he may feel it his duty to address to them; but I am at the same time persuaded that he will meet with no unnecessary obstacles from any quarter in the prosecution of his object; and that all persons in any degree responsible for the management and regulation of the prisons and workhouses in Jamaica, will readily afford him every facility in procuring that detailed and accurate information which it will be his endeavour to obtain.

I have full confidence in the intelligence and discretion with which Captain Pringle will perform this service; and I earnestly hope that the result of his mission will be, not only to remove much doubt and uncertainty hitherto occasioned by conflicting statements as to the prison discipline affecting the apprenticed negroes when in confinement, but also to suggest such permanent improvements in the construction and management of the prisons, as may appear necessary in order to render them efficient for the prevention of crime, and at the same time to impose a complete check on the exercise of any needless severity. In this object I am convinced that all persons of right feeling will cordially concur; and I therefore anticipate its accomplishment with confidence.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Glenelg.*

Enclosure in No. 44.

CAPTAIN PRINGLE'S INSTRUCTIONS.

Enclosure in
No. 44.

Sir,

Downing-street, 12 September 1837.

I AM directed by Lord Glenelg to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government having felt it their duty to obtain full and accurate information on the nature of the prison discipline to which the apprenticed negroes in the West Indies are subjected when under a penal sentence, his Lordship has selected you for the purpose of inspecting and reporting to Her Majesty's Government on the state of the prisons, workhouses and other places of confinement in those colonies, and the treatment of the prisoners confined in them.

It is desirable that you should enter on the discharge of this duty with the least possible delay, and that with this view you should leave England by the next West India packet.

You will be furnished with letters to the governors of the respective colonies, to whom you will communicate your instructions, if required, and from whom you will receive all the information and assistance which it will be in their power to afford you in the prosecution of your object.

As the packet touches first at Barbados, it will probably be expedient that you should commence your inspection in that island; but as Jamaica, from its extent and population, will be the principal sphere of your operations, it is Lord Glenelg's wish that you should incur no unnecessary delay in proceeding to that island.

In order to supply you with some useful information which may tend to facilitate your investigation, I herewith transmit to you the reports and documents mentioned at the end of this letter, a reference to which will probably suggest to you many important topics of inquiry. Among these documents is a confidential copy of the evidence received by the Committee on Negro Apprenticeship during the last session of Parliament.

You will observe, from the Report of that Committee, that, for the reasons therein stated, they did not feel warranted in reporting to The House the evidence in question, and under these circumstances I should not have considered myself justified in placing it in your hands, did I not feel that it is essential to the complete discharge of the duty with which you are to be entrusted that you should be acquainted with the statements comprised in that evidence bearing immediately on the subject of your inquiries. My object in communicating it to you is to ensure your attention being directed to those particulars in the prison discipline in Jamaica (to which colony the evidence chiefly relates), which appears from the testimony there recorded to be peculiarly open to objection. You will, however, carefully abstain from giving publicity to any part of the evidence placed in your hands for the specific purpose which I have pointed out.

On your arrival in each colony you will be furnished by the governor with an accurate list of all the prisons and workhouses within its limits, and should he deem it necessary or expedient, with a view to the efficient performance of your duties, he will invest you with a local commission of the peace. The governor will, in this case, further explain to you the precise nature and extent of the powers and authority which such commission will confer on you.

you. The governor will also be requested to allow one of the officers of the medical staff to accompany you on your inspection of the prisons within his government.

You will then proceed to make your arrangements for the careful and complete investigation of the prisons in the colony, in doing which, where it can be avoided, you will not make it previously known in what order or at what time you propose to visit each of them.

In the examination of the prisons it will be proper that you should inspect every part of them, and should direct your attention to every particular of their government and internal discipline, and more especially that you should inquire into the nature and effect of the arrangements which may have been made with reference to the following points.

1. The construction, site and neighbourhood of the prison, its security, means and actual extent of classification and separation; power of inspecting the prisoners, cleanliness, ventilation, dryness, temperature and dimensions of the principal parts of the buildings, and especially of the night apartments or sleeping cells, and of cells for solitary confinement; the number of prisoners which it is calculated to receive, the number actually confined in it at the time of your visit, and, if possible, the average number of prisoners which it contains, distinguishing white from black, and apprentices from freemen.

2. The health of the prisoners; their personal cleanliness; the kind, quantity and quality of their daily food, clothing and bedding; the provision made for the sick, including the nature and frequency of medical attendance, and the remuneration given for it; the average amount of sickness and mortality, with their prevalent causes, if capable of being ascertained.

3. The employment of the prisoners.

In what this principally consists, distinguishing male from female prisoners; to what extent the separation of individual prisoners, or of male from female in their employment is carried; the number of hours during which they labour daily, and the kind and amount of labour to which they are subjected; whether within the precincts of the prison, or in penal gangs, or under any penal superintendence without its precincts; whether any chains are used, and in what cases, and of what weight and description in the case of males and females respectively. Wherever a treadmill is in use, you will carefully ascertain its dimensions; the diameter of the wheel, the height of the step, the rate at which it revolves, the means taken to prevent excessive motion, and to regulate and record its movements; the number of prisoners usually placed on it at a time; whether male and female prisoners are worked on it together or separately; the dress of each when on the mill, the means used to compel them to remain on the wheel, the purposes to which it is applied, the alternate periods of labour and rest, the nature of the rest, and the occupation of the prisoners when not on the wheel. On this subject you will not fail in each case attentively to examine into the structure and use of the treadmill and every particular connected with its use, with reference to the evidence received by the Committee of the House of Commons on Negro Apprenticeship. You will also particularly inquire whether pregnant women, or women with infant children are placed on the treadmill, or are subjected to any, and what other description of hard labour.

4. The punishment for offences committed in the prison.

What are the offences most commonly visited with punishment; the nature and amount of the punishment, by whom inflicted, and by whose authority, and in whose presence; and whether any and what record is kept of such punishment, and to whose inspection is such record subjected.

5. The instruction of the prisoners.

The hours allotted to moral and religious instruction and Divine worship; by whom the instruction is given, or Divine service performed; whether admission is given freely, or under any and what restrictions to ministers of one or more religious denominations; whether there is any school in the prison, and if so, is the schoolmaster or schoolmistress a prisoner?

6. Officers of the prison, male and female, by whom appointed, and by whom removable; their number, salaries and emoluments, and apparent qualifications, and the extent of their authority; whether female prisoners are superintended exclusively by female officers; whether any prisoners are employed as subordinate officers of the prison, and by whose authority or selection, and what are their privileges or remuneration.

7. Superintendence and inspection.

By whom is the prison officially visited, whether or not periodically, and at what periods; whether opportunity is afforded by such visits to the prisoners to make any representations to the official visitors. Whether a registry is kept of the commitments, and does it contain a statement of the offence of which the prisoner has been convicted, and of the authority by whom convicted. Whether any register or journal is kept, and by whom, and inspected by the visitors, of the character or conduct of the prisoners, the punishment inflicted, the sickness or death of any prisoner, or of any occurrence of an unusual nature. Whether strangers or ordinary visitors are admitted, and by whose authority, and under what restrictions.

Are the rules and regulations for the government of the prison hung up in a conspicuous place, or open for inspection.

8. The effect of the imprisonment.

1. As regards the bodily health of the prisoners.
2. As regards their moral improvement.
3. As regards the population of the neighbourhood.

What is the appearance and demeanor of those in confinement? What are the habits of

JAMAICA.

the discharged? What is the number of recommitments? Are commitments increasing or decreasing? Is the punishment of imprisonment, with its consequences, looked upon with terror?

The above heads of inquiry have been suggested, in order that your attention might be directed to those points on which it is especially desirable to obtain precise and accurate information. Your own acquaintance with some of the best conducted English prisons, your recent intercourse with one of the prison inspectors in this country, and the experience which you will rapidly acquire in the West Indies, will probably suggest to you some other points on which information may be equally important. In comparing the internal arrangements of the prison, and the labour and discipline to which the prisoners are subjected, whether on the treadmill or in any other shape, with what you are acquainted with in England, you will not fail to take into account the climate and other peculiar circumstances which necessarily occasion a wide difference, in some respects, between the colonies which you are about to visit and this country. You will further bear distinctly in mind that the prison discipline in the West Indies ought to be equally applicable to all offenders, of whatever class or colour, irrespective of any difference arising out of past slavery, or the present temporary system of apprenticeship. You will, therefore, ascertain whether any distinction is practically made in the treatment of prisoners of different colour or race, or of apprentices as distinguished from freemen. You will also minutely inquire into the treatment of the female prisoners, as distinguished from the male, in all the points to which I have generally adverted, which require or admit of a distinction between the sexes. In prisons containing both tried and untried prisoners, you will advert to any difference in the mode of treatment, the indulgences allowed, and the discipline enforced; and you will especially ascertain whether prisoners confined on suspicion of desertion are subjected to any penal discipline.

It will be desirable that you should be present in the prison during the ordinary working of the treadmill; and that you should witness the performance of any other description of penal labour imposed on the prisoners. If practicable, you will also attend at the hours of meals and of instruction, and after the prisoners are locked up for the night, in order to visit all or some of the cells and sleeping apartments.

You will select in each prison such prisoners as you may think proper for private and separate examination, and you will question them as to the general nature of their treatment, and the discipline and punishment to which they are subjected. You will also endeavour to ascertain whether any of them have suffered bodily hurt or injury from the treadmill; and if so, the nature of such injuries and the cause of them.

You will examine privately and separately each of the subordinate officers of the prison, as you think fit; and it will be important that you should question the medical attendant and the governor, or other superior officer of the prison, as to its general discipline, as to any particulars on which you desire specific information, and as to any complaints or allegations of the prisoners. In doing this, it will of course be right that the name of any prisoner from whom you have received any such complaint or allegation, should not be mentioned, unless the individual freely consents to come forward and substantiate his statement. You will, however, leave no fit means untried for bringing the accuracy of any such complaint or allegation to the test. In some cases it may be desirable that you should repeat your visit to a particular prison without having given its officers any reason to suppose it to be your intention to do so.

You will take down in writing the substance of the information which you receive from the examination of separate individuals. It may frequently be expedient that the statement should be recorded in the very words, and in the presence of the informant, and subsequently read to him, to ensure its correspondence with his meaning. It is scarcely necessary for me to impress on you the importance of the utmost temper and discretion in the prosecution of your inquiries. You will endeavour to combine with a searching and minute investigation into the whole subject referred to you, and into any allegation respecting it, a mild and courteous demeanor towards all the parties with whom you may have to communicate, and an abstinence from all conduct or language which, by producing irritation or anger, might throw obstacles in the way of the complete and satisfactory attainment of the end in view, or might afford plausible ground for imputing to you any want of fairness or impartiality. Your object will be to ascertain facts, and in such a way as to leave as little ground as possible for objection to the accuracy and conclusiveness of your report.

Although it will be probably expedient that you should defer your general report until after the completion of your inquiries into all the prisons which you are about to visit, circumstances may occur or facts may come to your knowledge in the course of your investigation which will require special and immediate notice, in which case you will lose no time in reporting them to Lord Glenelg. It will also be your duty to communicate, without delay, to the governor of the colony any facts which you may have ascertained, and which appear to you to come within the province, and to require the immediate attention of the Executive Government.

Lord Glenelg is desirous that your report should be in the hands of Her Majesty's Government during the next session of Parliament, and he considers it of importance that you should return to this country in the course of next spring, in order that you may personally furnish to Her Majesty's Government, and to any Committee of either House of Parliament

which

which may be appointed to consider the subject of Negro Apprenticeship, such information and explanation as may be required. His Lordship, however, is most anxious that the duty with which you are charged should not be hastily or cursorily performed, with a view to your early return. It will be preferable that you should not attempt more than can be thoroughly accomplished within the prescribed time. I am therefore to authorize you, in the event of the whole inquiry requiring more time than is compatible with your return to England by the month of April next, after carefully completing the investigation of the prisons in Jamaica, to omit such of the other colonies as you may not be able to comprise within the period allotted to you.

In order to prevent a considerable loss of time to which you would otherwise be liable, you are at liberty to select a gentleman to act as your secretary, who will relieve you from much clerical labour, and who should also be competent to assist you in the discharge of your more immediate duties.

I am to observe that where the term "prison" is used alone in these instructions, it is intended to comprise the buildings usually denominated "workhouses," in the West Indies and all other places in which prisoners are confined under legal penal sentences.

Captain Pringle.

I am, &c
(signed) *Geo. Grey.*

LIST of DOCUMENTS transmitted with above Despatch.

- Act for Abolition of Slavery, 3 & 4 William 4, cap. 73.
 - Papers relative to same, 1835 and 1836, Parts I., II., III.
 - Report of Evidence of Apprentice Committee of 1836.
 - Evidence of Apprenticeship Committee of 1837. (Confidential, not published.)
 - Report of Committee of 1837.
 - Papers of Judicial Commissioners of Inquiry respecting Gaols in West Indies. Parliamentary Papers, Session of 1831, No. 334.
 - Acts of Parliament respecting Gaols, 4 Geo. 4, c. 64; 5 Geo. 4, c. 85; 10 Geo. 4, c. 54; 5 & 6 Will. 4, c. 38.
 - Lord Glenelg's Circular Despatch, respecting Gaols, 5 July 1837.
 - Lord Glenelg's Despatch to Sir Lionel Smith, No. 100, of 31 May 1837.
 - Five Gaol Reports of the House of Lords.
 - Reports of Inspectors of Prisons.
 - Mr. Crawford's Report on Penitentiaries in the United States.
-

INVESTIGATION by COMMISSIONERS of INQUIRY into the Case of
JAMES WILLIAMS, and other Apprenticed Labourers.

—No. 45.—

(No. 110.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B.

No. 45.

Sir,

Downing-street, 28 June 1837.

Pamphlet printed in
Sir Lionel Smith's
Despatch,
13 Nov. 1837,
page 147.

I HAVE the honour to enclose, for your information, copies of a pamphlet which has been placed in my hands, entitled, "A Narrative of Events since the 1st of August 1834, by James Williams, an Apprenticed Labourer in Jamaica."

In adopting this course, you will not ascribe to me an implicit assent to the truth of the allegations contained in this pamphlet. On the contrary, I feel it my duty to express considerable distrust of a statement of this nature, put into public circulation at a distance from the spot where the facts are alleged to have occurred, and with respect to which no opportunity has been afforded for inquiry or investigation. It is but just, however, to the various public officers whose conduct is thus publicly impugned, that they should be allowed an opportunity of offering any explanation of the facts alleged against them. Nor is it less the duty of the Government to institute a strict inquiry into such of the circumstances as are alleged with sufficient accuracy and distinctness to allow of the adoption of such a course. I have therefore to request that you will immediately take such measures for this purpose as appear to you practicable, and that you will report to me the result at as early a period as possible.

With respect to the cruelties stated to be of common occurrence in St. Ann's workhouse, you will have little difficulty in ascertaining whether such practices have really prevailed there. Should you find sufficient evidence of the fact, you will not be deterred, by the result of legal proceedings in other instances, from taking the necessary steps for bringing the delinquents to justice.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

—No. 46.—

(No. 167.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B., to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 46.

My Lord,

Spanish Town, 25 August 1837.

ON the 9th instant I had the honour of receiving your Lordship's despatch, No. 110, dated 28th June 1837, enclosing copies of a pamphlet, entitled, "A Narrative of Events since the 1st August 1834, by James Williams, an Apprenticed Labourer in Jamaica."

No one can feel the importance of having this subject fully investigated more than I do. It is due to myself, and the governors before me; it is due to the accused, and it is due to the great body of proprietors, that such alleged atrocious abuses should be proved, or their fallacy exposed.

My Lord, no man of any experience, in the present state of the late slave colonies would attempt to deny that many abuses do exist. We have here upwards of 300,000 apprentices, with only a weekly communication through the island. It is impossible to control the various tempers and dispositions of all the persons put in charge of this mass of human beings. In the case of absentees' properties, low, uneducated and violent overseers become their masters, and a great deal of ill treatment, not punishable by the law, is frequently resorted to. These people's interests are all for the present, and they are reckless of the future; but I owe it to myself, and to the magistrates generally, to declare, that whenever oppression is brought to light, all the power of the law is applied to redress and punishment. The governor or magistrate who would shrink from this duty ought instantly to be dismissed.

I have

I have now to explain to your Lordship my opinion how this inquiry should be set on foot. It is most important it should be completed before the new House of Assembly meets; I propose issuing a commission to one special justice and one local magistrate, under instructions founded on the "Narrative," to repair to the different places where abuses were stated to have been committed, and take depositions of all the facts to be found. In the person of Mr. Special Justice Daughtrey, I have an officer of a high sense of honour, great intelligence, research and diligence; though he is said by some to be in correspondence with the Anti-slavery Society; he is universally respected by the planters; I have never had an accusation against him; and the apprentices in his district are as happy as the peasantry of any free country. This gentleman I immediately selected to conduct this important inquiry. His associate, as a general magistrate, will be Mr. George Gordon, of St. James's, a gentleman of high character; but I am not sure if I shall prevail upon him to undertake the office.

I hope your Lordship may approve of this course. If these gentlemen undertake it, their characters will guarantee the integrity of their report. There is, however, a difficulty in regard to the unavoidable expenses which such a commission must occasion, and for which your Lordship's instruction makes no provision. I have nothing in my power, and all I shall promise will be my strong recommendation to your Lordship, that they should, at least, be compensated for their expenses, if they could not be remunerated for their labour.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Lionel Smith.*

—No. 47.—

(No. 165.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K. C. B.

Sir,

Downing-street, 13 October 1837.

No. 47.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your despatch, No. 167, of the 25th of August, acknowledging the receipt of my despatch of the 28th of June, No. 110, in which I enclose a copy of a pamphlet of James Williams, an apprenticed labourer in Jamaica; and I have to convey to you my approval of the mode in which you have determined on conducting the inquiries into the transactions to which the pamphlet refers.

The opinion which I have formed of Mr. Daughtrey, from his reports which have been successively brought under my notice, leaves no doubt whatever in my mind that the selection of that gentleman is wholly unexceptionable, and I have every reason to place entire confidence in your judgment as it respects Mr. Gordon.

With regard to your recommendation, that these gentlemen should be compensated for any outlay which their commission may occasion, I can only at present state, that it would be most unreasonable to subject them to any expense in the discharge of the duty intrusted to them; and that I shall be ready to consider the question, when I shall be in possession of their report, and a statement of the expenses which they may have incurred.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Glenelg.*

—No. 48.—

(No. 200.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B., to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Spanish Town, 2 November 1837.

No. 48.

I HAVE the honour to inform you, that the commissioners of inquiry on the case of James Williams have closed their proceedings, and I am sorry to say, the whole barbarous case of that individual is fully proved and confirmed.

The proceedings at large are copying for your Lordship and the House of Assembly, and will be transmitted as soon as possible.

It will be my duty to suspend Mr. Rawlinson from his office of special magistrate, which I shall also fully report upon by the next packet.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Lionel Smith.*

Enclosure 2, in No. 49.

JAMAICA.

Falmouth, 23 October 1837.

Encl. 2, in No. 49.

THE commissioners in the prosecution of the inquiry which your Excellency was pleased to intrust to them, having taken the fullest evidence they could obtain upon the several subjects which the investigation was designed to embrace, have now the honour to transmit, for your Excellency's information, an authentic copy of their entire proceedings.

In reporting upon the general results of this extended inquiry, it has become the duty of the commissioners to state, that the allegations of James Williams's narrative have received few and inconsiderable contradictions, whilst every material fact has been supported and corroborated by an almost unbroken chain of convincing testimony.

Such being the conclusion of the commissioners with respect to the narrative, it can scarcely be necessary for them to add, that the abolition law has not been properly administered in some parts of the parish of St. Ann's; that the house of correction of that parish was, until recently, a place of licentiousness and cruelty; and that the tread-mill has been from the time of its erection, and still is, an instrument rather of torture than of just and salutary punishment.

Upon these topics the commissioners have thought it right to report specifically; but with reference to others, of no less interest, they leave the evidence to speak for itself; persuaded that the whole detail will be found important enough to command your Excellency's immediate attention.

(signed) Geo. Gordon, J. P., St. James's.
John Daughtrey, S. M.

(True copy) S. R. Warren, Secretary.

To his Excellency Sir Lionel Smith, Governor.

Enclosure 3, in No. 49.

Sir,

St. James's, 23 October 1837.

Encl. 3, in No. 49.

THERE being no explanation or defensive statement of Mr. Special Justice Rawlinson among our proceedings, we think it but just to mention, for his Excellency's information, that Mr. Rawlinson appeared a day or two before our business there was brought to a close, and had free access to the evidence and other documents; he, however, expressed no wish to offer any statements in his own behalf, alleging that he was not prepared to do so. A rough copy of the minutes is left at Falmouth for his use, and he will probably forward some explanations direct to the King's House on such parts of his official conduct as he may deem most to require them.

We are, &c.

(True copy) S. R. Warren, Secretary.

(signed) George Gordon.
John Daughtrey.

S. R. Warren, Esq.

Enclosure 4, in No. 49.

Sir,

Glasgow Estate, St. James's, 23 October 1837.

Encl. 4, in No. 49.

THE whole proceedings under our commission having been this morning despatched from Falmouth to the King's House by a special messenger, your communication of the 20th inst., enclosing to us a protest of Mr. Senior's, with respect to these proceedings, has just met us at this place, Mr. Gordon's residence, Mr. Daughtrey being on his way to St. Elizabeth's.

We herewith transmit to you our replies to the series of objections urged by Mr. Senior, and have the honour to remain, &c.

(signed) George Gordon.
John Daughtrey.

P. S.—The enclosures transmitted to us are now returned, as well as some correspondence between Mr. Senior and ourselves, which will throw some light on the manner in which that gentleman has been affected by this inquiry, and on the nature of the defence he has adopted.

(True copy) S. R. Warren.

(signed) George Gordon.
John Daughtrey.

S. R. Warren, Esq.

Sir,

Penshurst, Runaway Bay, 17 October 1837.

You may recollect that I called on you more than once in the last week of September, and requested you would inform the Governor that I wished to see him, on the subject of the investigation then going on in St. Ann's. My request not having been complied with, I now enclose a protest against the proceedings of the commissioners, which I consider to have been illegal and unjust.

A copy of my protest, and a statement of the proceedings which came under my notice, will be forwarded to the agent for Jamaica, to be laid before Lord Glenelg and the Committee of the House of Commons.

I have, &c.

(True copy) S. R. Warren.

(signed) G. W. Senior.

S. R. Warren, Esq.

JAMAICA.

PROTEST of Mr. Senior.

I protest against the proceedings of the commissioners appointed by the Governor to inquire into certain abuses in the administration of justice, &c. &c.

1. Because I did not receive sufficient timely notice to attend.
2. Because the commissioners allowed Clarke and Dexter, two Baptist missionaries, to be associated with them, with a secretary to take down all the proceedings.
3. Because the above-named Baptist missionaries were permitted by the commissioners to interfere in the proceedings, to ask questions of the witnesses, and to behave in the most indecorous manner.
4. Because I was deprived of the labour of a number of my apprentices for several days, by their being ordered to attend at Brown's Town, instead of the inquiry being made on the spot, where all the ends of justice might have been obtained much more fully than at Brown's Town.
5. Because many of my apprentices (who are notoriously the worst disposed in the island) were examined in my absence, and, not having received a copy of their evidence, I have not had it in my power to refute any falsehoods they may have told to my prejudice.
6. Because I claim that right which is conceded even to the greatest criminal, of knowing of what I am accused, and an opportunity of clearing myself from any unjust accusations.

(True copy) S. R. Warren.

Messrs. Gordon and Daughtrey's ANSWER to the Protest of Mr. Senior.

See Note in reply,
19 September.

1. THE commissioners were not aware that Mr. Senior had received no official notice of the intended inquiries. Their first act at Brown's Town was to apprise him of the object of their visit, and to request his attendance on the next day.

2. Messrs. Clarke and Dexter were no more associated with the commissioners than any other person who chose to attend their court, the proceedings of which were public. The person designated as the secretary of Messrs. Clarke and Dexter is connected with the press, and, having been permitted to take notes of the evidence, was observed to report so accurately and expeditiously that the commissioners subsequently employed him for that purpose on their own account. The courtesy of his behaviour to all, and the exactness with which he recorded the evidence, were the theme of general commendation.

3. The statements under this head have scarcely a semblance of truth. Messrs. Clarke and Dexter were not permitted to interfere with the proceedings of the court, nor evinced the least wish to do so. In common with others who attended the inquiry, they were allowed to submit questions to the court, to be put if approved; a courtesy, however, of which they rarely availed themselves. Justice to these gentlemen requires it to be observed, that so far from having "behaved in a most indecorous manner," nothing could be more correct and inoffensive than their whole demeanour during the few days which they attended the sittings of the court. The commissioners were engaged in the inquiry at Brown's Town 12 days; Mr. Clarke was present only on five of these days; Mr. Dexter continued his attendance somewhat longer.

4. In the opinion of the commissioners, the investigation relating to the Penshurst people could not have been made with equal advantage to the ends of justice at Mr. Senior's residence. Mr. Senior offered no objection of this nature at the time, but readily met the request of the commissioners for the attendance at Brown's Town of the people whose evidence was required.

5. If any of Mr. Senior's apprentices were examined in his absence, it was because he did not always choose to be present, and not from any wish of the commissioners that such should be the case; on the contrary, they requested and recommended his attendance; and in one instance, where evidence had been adduced in his absence of a decidedly criminal character, they sent to Penshurst to apprise him of it, in order that he might have the earliest opportunity of explaining or refuting it. Mr. Senior always knew when any of his people were in attendance for examination. On his re-appearance in the court on Saturday, the 23d September, at the close of the direct Penshurst inquiry, the minutes of proceedings were placed in his hands for perusal, or to be copied, had such been his wish, with a distinct intimation that any statement he might wish to make should go forth with the rest of the evidence.

6. The answer which the commissioners have given to the preceding head of the protest makes it almost unnecessary to offer any remark upon this. It will have been seen that Mr. Senior had every advantage which it was in the power of the commissioners to afford him of becoming acquainted with the allegations against him, and of adducing counter evidence. The commissioners will further express their belief that Mr. Senior was not in ignorance of the nature of these allegations. On the visit they made to Penshurst, at the termination of the Brown's Town portion of the inquiry, they again informed both Mr. Senior and Miss Senior, that if they had affidavits to present on any points they might wish to depose to, such affidavits would be received and incorporated with their proceedings. Affidavits from both were subsequently transmitted to the commissioners, and have been introduced accordingly.

(signed) Geo. Gordon,
John Daughtrey.

St. James's, 23 October 1837.

(True copy) S. R. Warren.

See his Note in
reply,
22 September.

Gentlemen, Penshurst, 19 September 1837.
 THOUGH not very convenient to me, I will call on you to-morrow about nine o'clock.

(True copy) *S. R. Warren.* I have, &c.
 (signed) *G. W. Senior.*
 To George Gordon and John Daughtrey, Esqrs.
 Brown's Town.

Gentlemen, Penshurst, 22 September 1837.
 I CAN have no idea of the nature of the information you may have received from Peter William Atkinson; but as it is too late to come over to-day, I will call on you early to-morrow.

(True copy) *S. R. Warren.* I am, &c.
 (signed) *G. W. Senior.*
 To George Gordon and John Daughtrey, Esqrs.
 Brown's Town.

Gentlemen, Penshurst, Runaway Bay, 14 Oct. 1837.
 I WENT to St. Ann's Bay, on Tuesday the 10th, agreeably to your own appointment, and was much surprised to find that you had left the parish. I now enclose three affidavits,* which I hope you will attach to the proceedings. As you have not given me an opportunity of refuting any falsehoods which the Penshurst people might have told in my absence, and without which the investigation cannot be completed with that fairness and justice which is due to every one, I shall prepare a full narrative of the proceedings at which I was present, to be laid before the House of Assembly and before the Colonial Secretary.

If William Dalling could tell such falsehoods when I was present, I have a right to expect others would not be very scrupulous what they said in my absence; I shall protest against the whole of the proceedings, and, though my objection may have no weight here, I am satisfied, from my knowledge of Lord Glenelg, that he will give a fair hearing to my representations.

I am, &c.
 (signed) *G. W. Senior.*
 To George Gordon and John Daughtrey, Esqrs.

Sir, Falmouth, 17 October 1837.
 WE have to acknowledge your letter of the 14th inst., enclosing two affidavits, one from Miss Senior, the other from yourself. These are now appended to the body of the evidence. That any such error should have arisen, with regard to the appointment at St. Ann's Bay, as to cause you a fruitless journey, we much regret. You must, however, permit us to say, that the error was not ours, as you have somewhat inconsiderately alleged, but your own; Tuesday was, indeed, named as a day when we thought public business would probably draw you to the Bay (and at that time we were certainly under an impression that our inquiry would scarcely be concluded on an earlier day); but you mentioned *Saturday* as more convenient to yourself, and it was so fixed accordingly. Your next allegation, that we have "not given you an opportunity of refuting any falsehoods which the Penshurst people might have told in your absence," is much more serious, and strikes us almost with surprise.

Were you not made aware, the instant we arrived at Brown's Town, of the nature and authority of our commission?

Were you not informed, in the most respectful and even courteous manner, that every possible opportunity would be afforded you for explaining or refuting the various charges comprised in the narrative of James Williams, or any other charge that might happen to be adduced in the course of our investigation?

Whenever you did attend on our court, were not the whole of the proceedings which had been taken in your absence accessible to you in the most unrestricted manner, and even urged upon your attention?

Did we not, in one instance, when allegations were made in your absence which appeared to us more serious than the rest, send for you, that you might be immediately aware of their nature, and be thus furnished with every advantage which it was in our power to afford you of refuting them?

Whatever may therefore be the difficulties of your position, they have assuredly not been increased by our conduct towards you.

We have, &c.
 (signed) *Geo. Gordon,* }
John Daughtrey, } Commissioners.

(True copies) *S. R. Warren.*

* The affidavits will be found at the end of the Minutes of Proceedings.

JAMAICA.

Encl. 5, in No. 49.

Enclosure 5, in No. 49.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS at *Brown's Town, St. Ann's*, under Commission from his Excellency Sir *Lionel Smith*, Governor of Jamaica, directed to *George Gordon*, Esq., Justice of the Peace for the Parish of St. James, and Proprietor of Moor Park Estate, in the said Parish, and *John Daughtrey*, Esq., Special Magistrate, St. Elizabeth.

Wednesday, 20 September 1837.

THE commissioners commenced their sittings at this place by directing that the commission from which their authority is derived, and the letter of instructions which accompanied it, should be read in open court; they, at the same time, announced that their proceedings would be public.

COPY of the COMMISSION.

Jamaica ss.

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen, and of Jamaica Supreme Lady, Defender of the Faith, &c. &c. &c.

To Our trusty and well-beloved subjects, John Daughtrey, Esquire, and George Gordon, Esquire, greeting:

WHEREAS We have thought it expedient, for divers good causes and considerations us thereunto moving, that an inquiry should forthwith be made in the administration of justice, under the provisions of the law for the abolition of slavery, and for promoting the industry of the manumitted slaves in this our island, but particularly with respect to the administration of the said law in the parish of St. Ann's, touching the nature and truth of the allegations contained in the pamphlet of James Williams, late an apprentice to G. W. Senior, Esq., with the narrative of events contained in the said pamphlet, as having taken place in the said parish of St. Ann's:

Know ye, that We, reposing great trust and confidence in your fidelity, discretion and integrity, have authorized and appointed, and do by these presents authorize and appoint you, the said John Daughtrey and George Gordon, to make a diligent inquiry whether any and what part of the said law hath not been faithfully administered by the justices who then held and who are now holding special commissions in the said parish, and to ascertain the truth of the allegations contained in the said pamphlet of James Williams; and for the better discovering of the truth in the premises, We do, by these presents, give and grant to you, as special justices of the peace in and over this island of Jamaica, and as local magistrates, according to the authority of your commissions respectively, full power and authority to call before you, or any one of you, all persons, being apprenticed labourers or free persons, as you may judge necessary, by whom you may be better informed of the truth in the premises, and to inquire of the premises, and every part thereof, by oath, and all other lawful ways and means whatsoever; and you will certify to Us your proceedings, when the same have been completed and perfected. Witness his Excellency Sir Lionel Smith, Knight Commander of the most honourable Military Order of the Bath, Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order, Lieutenant-general in Her Majesty's Land Forces, and Colonel of the 40th Regiment of Foot, Captain-general and Governor-in-chief and Commander of the Forces in and over the Island of Jamaica, and the Territories thereon depending in America, Chancellor Ordinary and Vice-admiral of the same at St. Jago de la Vega, the eighth day of September, and in the first year of the reign of our most gracious Sovereign Queen Victoria, annoque Domini One thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven.

By his Excellency's command,

Lionel Smith.(True copy) *S. R. Warren*, Secretary.

COPY of the LETTER of INSTRUCTIONS.

The King's House, Spanish Town,
9 September 1837.

Gentlemen,

As you have kindly consented to be associated as joint-commissioners, to investigate and report on certain abuses in the administration of justice towards the apprenticed labourers, represented in a pamphlet, stated to be "A Narrative of Events since the 1st August 1834, by James Williams, an Apprenticed Labourer in Jamaica," I now do myself the honour to enclose you a copy of the Secretary of State's despatch, calling for inquiry, together with the pamphlet itself.

I have to request that, at your earliest convenience, you will proceed to the different places in which the abuses complained of are said to have occurred, and there, by depositions of parties cognizant of the different transactions, you will probably be able to substantiate or refute the various allegations against either the public authorities or accused individuals.

I need

I need not impress upon two gentlemen distinguished in society by upright principles, that it is no less due to the cause of justice than to the credit of the colony at large, that you should carefully search for and faithfully declare the whole truth, and nothing but the truth; and it is a source of great pleasure to me to reflect, that your honourable characters will guarantee this object to the satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government as well as the people of Jamaica.

In examining into the different allegations stated in the pamphlet, you will probably find it convenient to number each case in the order in which they occur, and may require to be inquired into; and to aid your inquiry as regards the accusations against Mr. Special Justice Rawlinson, I transmit copies of his diary, and the entries of his notice of "James Williams's" offences.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Lionel Smith.*

Enclosure 6, in No. 49.

NARRATIVE of EVENTS since the 1st of August 1834, by *James Williams*,
an Apprenticed Labourer in Jamaica.

ADVERTISEMENT.

THE following narrative of James Williams has been carefully taken down from his lips. Encl. 6, in No. 49. It was deemed better to preserve his own peculiar style, rather than by any attempt at revision to endanger the self-evident proof of fidelity which his account bears. I have now before me a document signed by two free negroes and six apprentices, all members of a Christian church in Jamaica, in which they affirm, that they have known the narrator from his infancy, and that he "*is steady, sober, industrious, of good moral character, and that his word may be relied upon.*" Their names, and the estates to which they belong, should be given, did I not know the consequences which would probably follow to themselves from the disclosure. The negro apprentice, unhappily, is not in a situation to give evidence against his master with impunity. He cannot tell his tale of woe without subjecting himself to the brutal wrath of his oppressor. James Williams, however, is in the land of freedom, and his narrative will speak for itself. It is a revolting picture which he draws, a dark assemblage of human crimes, unrelieved by a single virtue, save the enduring patience of the sufferer. That heart must be callous and brutal, the deepest feelings of which are not stirred by his narrative; and that man must possess a very partial acquaintance with the Christian law of duty, who does not rise from its perusal determined to exert all his powers for the extinction of the system under which our African brethren groan and bleed. In the course of the investigations instituted on the spot by Mr. Sturge and his associate, confirmatory evidence of some of the most revolting of Williams's statements was obtained. The minutes of these examinations are before me; and were it consistent with a due regard to the interests of the witnesses, they should be presented to the reader. But I must content myself with affirming that they leave no doubt in my mind, and could leave no doubt in the mind of any impartial man, that, horrible as is the account which Williams gives, it is entitled to the full confidence of the British public.

Thomas Price, D. D.
Hackney, London.

20 June 1837.

NARRATIVE, &c.

I AM about 18 years old. I was a slave belonging to Mr. Senior and his sister, and was brought up at the place where they live, called Penshurst, in St. Ann's parish, in Jamaica.

I have been very ill-treated by Mr. Senior and the magistrates since the new law come in. Apprentices get a great deal more punishment now than they did when they was slaves; the master take spite, and do all he can to hurt them before the free come; I have heard my master say, "Those English devils say we to be free, but if we is to free, he will pretty well weaken we, before the six and the four years done; we shall be no use to ourselves afterwards."

Apprentices a great deal worse off for provision than beforetime; magistrate take away their day, and give to the property; massa give we no salt allowance, and no allowance at Christmas; since the new law begin, he only give them two mackarel, that was one time when them going out to job.

When I was a slave, I never flogged; I sometimes was switched, but not badly; but since the new law begin, I have been flogged seven times, and put in the house of correction four times.

Soon after 1st August, massa tried to get me and many others punished; he brought us up before Dr. Palmer, but none of us been doing nothing wrong, and magistrate give we right.

After that, Mr. Senior sent me with letter to Captain Connor, to get punished, but magistrate send me back, he would not punish me till he try me; when I carry letter back to massa, he surprise to see me come back, he been expect Captain Connor would put me in workhouse. Captain Connor did not come to Penshurst; he left the parish. Massa didn't tell me what charge he have against me.

JAMAICA.

No. 1.

When Dr. Thompson come to the parish, him call one Thursday, and said he would come back next Thursday, and hold court Friday morning. He come Thursday afternoon, and get dinner, and sleep at Penshurst, and after breakfast all we apprentices called up. Massa try eight of we, and Dr. Thompson flog every one; there was five man and three boys; them flog the boys with switches, but the men flog with the cat. One of the men was the old driver, Edward Lawrence; massa say he did not make the people take in pimentò crop clean; he is quite old—head quite white—havn't got one black hair in it, but Dr. Thompson ordered him to be flogged; not one of the people been doing any thing wrong; all flog for trifling foolish thing, just to please the massa.

No. 2.

When them try me, massa said, that one Friday I was going all round the house with big stone in my hand, looking for him and his sister to knock them down. I was mending stone wall round the house by massa's order; I was only a half-grown boy that time. I told magistrate I never do such thing, and offer to bring evidence about it; he refuse to hear me or my witness; would not let me speak; he sentence me to get 39 lashes; eight policemen was present, but magistrate make constable flog at first; them flog the old driver first, and me next; my back all cut up and cover with blood—could not put on my shirt—but massa say, constable not flogging half hard enough, that my back not cut at all; then the magistrate make one of the police take the cat to flog the other three men, and him flog most unmerciful. It was Henry James, Thomas Brown and Adam Brown that the police flog. Henry James was an old African; he had been put to watch large corn-piece, no fence round it, so the cattle got in and eat some of the corn; he couldn't help it, but magistrate flog him for it. After the flogging, he got quite sick, and begin coughing blood; he went to the hot-house,* but got no attention; them say him not sick. He go to Captain Dillon to complain about it; magistrate give him paper to carry to massa, to warn him to court on Thursday: that day them go to Brown's Town; Captain Dillon and a new magistrate, Mr. Rawlinson, was there. Captain Dillon say that him don't think that Henry James was sick; he told him to go back and come next Thursday, and he would have doctor to examine him; the old man said he did not know whether he should live till Thursday; he walk away, but before he get out of the town, he drop down dead; all the place cover with blood that he puke up. He was quite well before the flogging, and always said it was the flogging bring on the sickness.

* Hospital.

No. 3.

Same day Henry James dead, massa carry me and Adam Brown before magistrate; he said I did not turn out sheep till nine o'clock on Wednesday morning; I told magistrate the sheep was kept in to be dressed, and I was eating my breakfast before dressing them; but Captain Dillon sentence me and Adam Brown to lock up in the dungeon at Knapdale for 10 days and nights; place was cold and damp, and quite dark—a little bit of a cell, hardly big enough for me to lie full length; them give we pint of water and two little coco or plantain a day; hardly able to stand up when we come out, we was so weak; massa and misses said we no punish half enough; massa order we straight to our work, and refuse to let we go get something to eat.

No. 4.

The week after we let out of dungeon, Mr. Rawlinson come to Penshurst, and tell some of the people he not done with we yet about the sheep; we only put in dungeon for warning, and he would come back next Thursday and try we again for it; he did come Thursday about four o'clock, and send call us; when we come, him and massa and misses was at dinner; we sent in to say we come; them said, never mind till morning. We know this magistrate come to punish we for nothing, so we go over to Captain Dillon at Southampton to complain; he write paper next morning to police-station, and policeman took us home. Mr. Rawlinson gone already, and misses said he left order that we to lock up every night, and keep at work in day-time, till he come back; but police say no, Captain Dillon order that we not to punish till he try we himself on Thursday, at Brown's Town; them took us there, but Captain Dillon did not come, but send paper for the other magistrate to try it, and said them couldn't try us for the same thing again; Mr. Rawlinson said it was not the same thing; Mr. Senior said, no, we had been insolent to him; we call constable to give evidence, and he said we not insolent; then magistrate say to Mr. Senior, "You mean insolence by manner." Massa answer, "Yes, that is what I mean, insolence by manner;" it was magistrate self that put massa up to say this; then the magistrate sentence us to get 20 lashes a piece, which was given in front of court-house by police; the punishment was very severe; both of us fainted after it; we lie down on the ground for an hour after it, not able to move; a free man in the place sent some rum and camphor to bring we round. We went home that night, and went into hospital; them would hardly receive us; we stop there that night and Friday, lock up all day and night, and no feeding; Saturday morning massa turned both of us out, we back all sore, quite raw, and we not able to stoop.

No. 5.

Ten days after the flogging at Brown's Town, Mr. Rawlinson come again to Penshurst on the Monday, and slept there. Next morning massa brought me up, and said that after the last punishment, when we get home, I did not turn out the horses and cows that night. I told magistrate I was sick with the flogging, and went to the hot-house, but Mr. Rawlinson order me 25 lashes for it; Mr. Senior said, "Let it be done on the place;" magistrate said, "Yes," and ordered constable, William Dalling, to do it. I begged magistrate not to flog me again, as the other flogging not well yet, but no use, he wouldn't hear me, but rode away from the place. Massa said he have no cat, but he would find some switches to do it with; I was flogged with lancewood switches upon the old flogging; it tear off all the old scabs, and I not able to lie down on my back for two or three week after; was made to work with my back all sore.

No. 6.

About a month after the last flogging, massa said to me one day, that he would send for
magistrate,

magistrate, and oblige him to do his duty, that all the gates in the pasture was down, and I never told him, and that I took up too much time to get in two turn of food for the horses; I said, I couldn't do more than I was doing, I had too many things to do; first thing in the morning I had to blow shell, then to go to pasture and get in milking cow, and to milk them; then had to look over the sheep and cows, and all the stock, and to dress them that have sores; then to get them altogether, and give to one little boy to take them to pasture; at nine o'clock go to breakfast for half an hour, then have to go mend gaps in the stone wall; after that have to take two asses and a bill, to cut bread-nut food for the horses; had to climb the high trees to cut the bread-nut; then to chop it up, and load the two asses, and take it home, and to come back for another load; this finish between four and five, and by that time the little boy bring in all the cattle; I have to look over them and to turn them into different pastures, then have to go and get a bundle of wood for the watch-fire, and after that to supper the horses in the stable at night; they don't allow me to go to negro-houses; obliged to keep watch all night, sleeping in the kitchen, and to answer all call; massa said I was only four years apprentice, and don't entitle to any time; that only one day in a fortnight due to me to work my ground and feed myself.

Massa never give me food; he allow me every other Sunday to work my ground, and sometimes he let me change it for another day. Magistrate say that was all the time the law allow.

No. 7.

As to the gates being down, massa go through them every day himself and see it; but he say, I ought to have told him, and he will make magistrate punish me for it; him swear vengeance against me.

No. 8.

Mr. Rawlinson come on a Friday evening, and I was to have take next day for my day; but massa send me word that me not to take the day, as he want to bring me before the magistrate; I was frightened and didn't go next morning. Then I heard that magistrate said as I take the day against orders, when him and me meet he would settle it; I was quite frightened when I hear this, and I go away to Spanish Town to see the governor, but didn't see him, as he was up in the mountain; I go back to St. Ann's, and hide in the woods about Penshurst and Knapdale; I stop about seven weeks, and then go back to Spanish Town; I went to Mr. Ramsay, and he gave me paper to Mr. Emery, the captain of police, at St. Ann's; I met him on the road; he took me and put me in dungeon at Carlton; was kept there from Wednesday till Friday morning, then policemen came and took me to Brown's Town, and put me in cage till next day; then Mr. Rawlinson had me handcuffed and sent me to Penshurst, and put me in dungeon for ten days before he try me.

No. 9.

On the eleventh day Mr. Rawlinson came and slept there that night; next morning he had me brought out, and asked me about the running away, and I told him I go away because I was frightened when I hear how him and massa threaten me; then he sentenced me to St. Ann's Bay workhouse for nine days, to get 15 lashes in going in; to dance the treadmill morning and evening, and work in the penal gang; and after I come back from the punishment, I must lock up every night in dungeon till he visit the property again, and I have to pay fifty days out of my own time for the time I been runaway.

Then they handcuff me to a woman belonging to Little-field, to send to the workhouse; she have little child carrying on her back, and basket on her head, and when she want to give pickaninny suck, she obliged to rest it on one hand to keep it to the breast, and keep walking on; police don't stop to make her suckle the child. When we get to the workhouse, that same evening they give me the 15 lashes; the flogging was quite severe and cut my back badly; then they put collar and chain upon my neck, and chain me to another man. Next morning they put me on the treadmill along with the others: at first, not knowing how to dance it, I cut all my shin with the steps; they did not flog me then; the driver showed me how to step, and I catch the step by next day; but them flog all the rest that could not step the mill, flogged them most dreadful. There was one old woman with gray head, belong to Mr. Wallace, of Farm, and she could not dance the mill at all; she hang by the two wrists which was strapped to the bar, and the driver kept on flogging her; she get more than all the rest, her clothes cut off with the cat; the shoulder-strap cut with it, and her shift hang down over that side; then they flog upon that shoulder and cut it up very bad; but all the flogging couldn't make she dance the mill, and when she come down all her back covered with blood. They keep on putting her on the mill for a week, and flog her every time, but when they see she could not dance it, they stop putting her on; if they no been stop, they would have kill her.

No. 10.

There was about 30 people in the workhouse that time, mostly men; nearly all have to dance the treadmill morning and evening; six or eight on the treadmill one time, and when them done, another spell go on, till them all done; every one strap to the bar over head, by the two wrists, quite tight; and if the people not able to catch the step, them hang by the two wrist, and the mill-steps keep on batter their legs and knees, and the driver with the cat keep on flog them all the time till them catch the step. The women was obliged to tie up their clothes, to keep them from tread upon them while they dance the mill; them have to tie them up so as only to reach down to the knee, and half expose themself; and the man have to roll up their trowsers above the knee, then the driver can flog their legs with the cat, if them don't dance good; and when they flog the legs till they all cut up, them turn to the back and flog away; but if the person not able to dance yet, them stop the mill, and make him drop his shirt from one shoulder, so as to get at his bare back with the cat. The boatswain flog the people as hard as he can lay it on; man and woman all alike.

No. 11.

JAMAICA.

No. 12.

One day while I was in, two young woman was sent in from Moneague side, to dance the mill, and put in dungeon, but not to work in penal gang; them don't know how to dance the mill, and driver flog them very bad; they didn't tie up their clothes high enough, so their foot catch upon the clothes when them tread the mill and tear them; and then between the cat and the mill them flog them so severe, they cut away most of their clothes, and left them in a manner naked; and the driver was bragging afterwards that he see all their nakedness.

Dancing treadmill is very hard work, it knock the people up; the sweat run all down from them; the steps all wash up with the sweat that drop from the people, just the same as if you throw water on the steps.

* The lever.

One boatswain have to regulate the pole* of the mill, and make it go fast or slow, as him like; sometimes them make it go very fast, and then the people can't catch the step at all; then the other boatswain flogging away and cutting the people's legs and backs without mercy. The people bawl and cry so dreadful, you could hear them a mile off; the same going on every time the mill is about; driver keep the cat always going while the people can't step.

When them come off the mill, you see all their foot cut up behind with the cat, and all the skin bruise off the shin with the mill-steps, and them have to go down to the sea-side to wash away the blood.

After all done dance the mill, them put chain and collar on again, and chain two, three, and sometime four together, and turn we out to work penal gang; send us to different estate to work; to dig cane-hole, make fence, clean pasture, and dig up heavy roots, and sometimes to drag cart to bring big stone from mountain-side, about two or three miles from the bay; have to drag cart up steep hill. About ten o'clock they give we breakfast; one quart of corn boiled up with a little salt; sometime they give we a shad between two or three of we.

They keep us at work till between four and five o'clock, then take us back to the work-house; take the chains off we all, and make us go upon the mill again, same fashion as in the morning. After that them put us into the bar-room; put the chain and collar on again, and our foot in the shackle-bar, to sleep so till morning. All the woman put into one room, and all the man in another; them that have any of the breakfast left from morning, them eat it after lock up, but them that eat all the allowance at breakfast, must starve till morning.

No. 13.

* Mr. Drake is supervisor of the house of correction at St. Ann's Bay.

We keep on so every day till Sunday. Sunday the women sent to Mr. Drake's yard,* to clean it; and half the man go cut grass for his horses, and the other half carry water for the workhouse. After that they have to grind all the hoes, and the bills, and the axes, ready for Monday. Them work we all with the chains on on Sunday, but they don't put us on treadmill that day.

No. 14.

When the nine days done, them send me home; I so weak I hardly able to reach home when I get there, Mr. Senior put me in the dungeon, and keep me there for four days and nights; he give me four little bananas and a piece of pumpkin, with a little dry salt, and a pint of water. Magistrate didn't order me to be locked up in the day, only at night, but massa do it of his own will.

Then I begged massa to let me out, and I would do whatever I can to please him, and he do so, and order me to get bundle of wood and keep watch every night, instead of going to the dungeon.

No. 15.

After coming out of workhouse I never feel well, and about three weeks after, I got quite sick with fever and head-ache, and pain in the stomach; almost dead with the sickness. Massa told me one day another punishment like that and it will just do for me; it would kill me quite. Dr. Tucker pay good attention to me, and at last I get over it.

No. 16.

After this, it was long time before they punish me again, but they make me pay off the fifty days; them give me no Sunday at all; every Wednesday they give me half a day to work my grounds, the other half them take to pay off the fifty days. For one year and three months, them keep ontake the half day from me every week, and never give me any feeding.

No. 17.

In November, about five or six weeks before this last Christmas, one Friday, massa blow shell at nine o'clock for the gang to go to breakfast; it was the time them begin to get half Friday; them say no, they would rather work the four hours and a half one time, and then get the rest of the day. Joseph Lawrence, the constable, go to massa, and said the people would not go to breakfast, they wanted to work out the time at once; massa said no, he would make them go to breakfast, and then work them till one o'clock. He ordered Lawrence to go away from the gang, and sent head constable, William Dalling, to order the people to breakfast; they said no, they would not; then massa go and order them himself, but they refused to go; then there was a great row and noise, and massa make them take up Joseph Lawrence, the constable, and Thomas Brown; he say it must be them advise the people not to go to breakfast, and he put them in the dungeon; and he take William Mills and put in, because he don't go to breakfast, and Miss Senior call out for them to put in Benjamin Higgins, the old mason, for the same thing.

No. 18.

While massa was putting the people in the dungeon, I was passing from the pantry to the kitchen; Miss Senior was cursing at me, but I did not give any hearing to what she saying. Massa was standing near the kitchen; he ask me what I got to say about it; I say, "Sir, I have nothing to do with it, I don't interfere;" he say, "You do interfere;" I tell him no; he raise up his stick three times to lick me down. I said, "You can't lick me down, sir, the law does not allow that, and I will go complain to magistrate if you strike me." He answer, he don't care for magistrate, he will lick the five pounds out of me that the magistrate will fine him. Then he order me to be lock up along with the rest.

While

While they was putting me in, I said, "It wasn't a man made this world, and man can't command it: the one that make the world will come again to receive it, and that is Jesus Christ!" Massa called to William Dalling, the constable, to bear witness what I was saying; he said he heard it; then they lock me up, and keep us there for 24 hours.

That same time massa sent for Mr. Rawlinson, he come Monday morning; four of us was tried, but he let off one, and punish the other three. Massa tell the magistrate about the words I use; him tell the very words; magistrate ask me if I use them words? I tell him yes, but I wasn't mean any thing harm. Then him put constable on his oath, and he repeat the words I said; then Mr. Rawlinson told me I had no business to say so, and he sentence me to get 20 lashes in the workhouse, and to dance the treadmill morning and evening, and work in penal gang for seven days.

At same time him try Joseph Lawrence and his sister Amelia Lawrence. Massa said that, on the Friday morning, when he ordered Joseph Lawrence to go away from the gang, he disobeyed his order, and stopped at the gate. Mr. Rawlinson sentence him to get 20 lashes, and seven days in the workhouse, treadmill and penal gang, same as me, and he broke him from being constable, though he only swear him in for constable the Wednesday before.

When Amelia Lawrence was tried, massa said that every time he go to the field, he always find she at the first row, and he want to know what let she always take the first row; being her brother was the driver, she seem as if she want to take the lead. Amelia said massa ought to glad to see apprentice working at the first row, and doing good work. This was all the word that massa have to say against Amelia Lawrence, and Mr. Rawlinson sentence her to seven days in the workhouse, penal gang and treadmill.

Amelia have four pickaninnies, two free and two apprentice, she left them with her family to take care of while she in the workhouse. Them put us all three together into dungeon after the court done, and send for police to carry we to workhouse. We kept in dungeon till next morning. Them don't give we a morsel to eat, and not a so so drop of water; but one of our friends, unknowing to massa, put a little victuals through a small hole.

In the morning, three police take us out, and carry us down to the workhouse; them handcuff me and Joseph Lawrence together, and when we get there them take the handcuff off, and tie we up one after the other, and give we 20 lashes a piece; both of we very much cut up with the flogging. When the penal gang come back in the evening, them put us all on treadmill; after my back cut up that fashion, all over blood, it hurt me dreadful to dance the mill.

The workhouse was quite full this time; they hardly have enough collar and chain to put on all the people, they obliged to take off the collar and chain from some of the life people,* to put on the apprentice; and at night there wasn't enough shackle to fasten all the people, and hardly room enough for us all to lie down. There was a great many woman in the workhouse, and several have sucking child; and there was one woman quite big with child, and them make her dance the mill too morning and evening; she not able to dance good, and them flog her; she complain about her stomach hurt her, and I see her several time go and beg the overseer not to work her on the mill, but him say, not him send her there, and he must do his duty.

All the woman that not able to dance was flog most dreadful, in particular all the woman from Hiattsfeld. There was 21 woman from Hiattsfeld, and one man; several of them have young children; I think they was in for 14 days. I found them in when I go there, and they was let out on Saturday night; I was present when they let out, and I hear the list call, and counted the people, and it was 21 woman from Hiattsfeld.

When I go to the workhouse on the Tuesday, there was only three of these woman able to work in the field, all the rest was in the hospital, from being cut up with the mill and the flogging; them all look quite shocking when them let out, some hardly able to walk to go home; the most lively among them was all mashed up with the mill; all the skin bruised off her shin; she had a young child too; she tell me that she was put in workhouse three weeks before, and now them send her back again.

There was more than a hundred people in the workhouse this time; I reckon the life people and all; there was about 17 or 18 of them, and when penal gang turn out, them send 10 or 12 of the life people along with apprentice, and all have to work together. The life people better treated more than apprentice; them get better feeding, them have quart of flour every second day instead of corn, and always get shad or salt fish every day; they don't put life people on treadmill, and I never see them put a lick upon one of the life people.

Almost every apprentice that sent to workhouse by magistrate have to dance treadmill, except the sick in the hospital. It was miserable to see when the mill going, the people bawling and crying most dreadful—so they can't dance, so the driver keep on flogging; them holla out, "Massa, me no able! my 'tomach, oh! me da dead, oh!"—but no use, the driver never stop—the bawling make it rather worse, them make the mill go faster—the more you holla the more the mill go, and the driver keep on flogging away at all them not able to keep up; them flog the people as if them was flogging cow.

One day one of the woman from Hiattsfeld fainted on the mill; they been flogging at her, and the mill bruise all her shins; when she faint she drop off the mill, and look as if she dead; all her fellow apprentice set up crying, and ask if she going to dead left them; she not able to speak; two men carry her out into the yard, and lay her out upon the ground, and throw water upon her to bring her to; but for a long time them think she dead already; she didn't come to till next morning.

There was one old woman, name Sally, from Mr. Cohen's, at Coolshade, was in workhouse when I go there, and she stop in there long time; she was in shocking condition—

JAMAICA.

No. 19.

No. 20.

No. 21.

No. 22.

No. 23.

No. 24.

No. 25.

* Convicts for life.

No. 26.

No. 27.

No. 28.

No. 29.

No. 30.

No. 31.

JAMAICA.

they had been putting her on the mill, and she don't able to dance at all, and them been flog her most terrible, but still she not able to dance, and at last them obliged to leave off putting her on the mill; but them keep on make her go out to work in penal gang, and chain her to one of the strong woman. She was badly treated more than any body I ever see in the workhouse; every day them flog her, she hardly able to stand. Two of the drivers, James Thomas and Robert Lyne, make constant practice to flog this old woman; and Mr. Drake sometimes beat her himself with supple jack.

No. 32.

One day we was working at Banks's negro-houses, cutting penguin to plant at Springfield—old Sally was chained to a young girl name Mary Murray; it was heavy rain time; driver was pushing the people on to run fast—was flogging them on; the young girl was trying to get on, and was hauling and dragging the chain that was on him and Sally neck, as Sally don't able to keep up; at last the old woman fall down, right in a place where a stream of water was running through the negro-house street, and she don't able to get up again; then the driver stand over her with the cat, and flog her, but she not able to get up with the chain on, so he take off the chain, and make the young girl tie it round her body, and go along with the rest; then he stand over the old woman, and flog her with the cat till he make her get up, and keep on flogging at her till she get to the cook's fireside; the old creature stand there trembling, all wet up—for two or three hours she not able to move away, she look quite stupid; all the other people in the workhouse quite pity this poor old woman, it would make any body heart grieve to see her. The under-driver tell the head-driver one day, that if him keep on beat her so, some of these days she will dead under it, and then he will get into trouble; every day I was in the workhouse, except to Sunday, I see them beat this old woman, and I left her still in.

No. 33.

All the drivers and the boatswains in the yard is people that sentence to the workhouse for life, two of them was very bad; them don't care how much them punish the apprentice.

Them woman that have young sucking child have to tie them on their back, and go to the field chain two together; when it rain ever so hard they have to keep on work with the children tied on their backs, but when the weather dry, them put down the child at the fire-side; when Mr. Drake there, he don't allow them to suckle the child at all, if it cry ever so much; him say the children free, and the law don't allow no time to take care of them; it is only the good-will of the driver that ever let woman suckle the children.

No. 34.

The drivers constant try to get after the young women that put into the workhouse,—even them that married, no matter. Before day in the morning, when the driver open the door to take the people out of the shackles, he call for any one he want to come to his room, and many of them worthless ones do it; Amelia Lawrence complain to her brother and me, that never one morning pass without the driver after her—she don't know what to do, she quite hurt and dishearted about it—but she did not give way; I heard him myself one morning calling her to come.

No. 35.

* Deputy clerk of the peace, perhaps.

One day Mr. Hilton, who is clerk in the court-house,* come to the workhouse soon in the morning, while the treadmill was going. I been on already, but another spell was on, and Mr. Hilton take off one of the weights from the pole, and make the mill go faster; after him gone, some of the people tell me that in the afternoon he often come half drunk, while the mill is going, then him take off the weight, and take off the man from the pole, and let the mill go flying round. When the pole let loose so, no person can step the mill—they all throw off, and hang by them two wrist; then him take the cat in his own hand, and flog all the people with all his strength.

Them say that sometimes he drive out with his wife, and come round by the workhouse; and if the mill going, he will leave his wife in the gig, and go in to punish the people, and all the call his wife can call to him to leave off, no use.

No. 36.

On the Wednesday next week, they let us out,—we been sent for seven days, but they don't reckon the Sunday for one day; we reach home Thursday—I was quite weak with the flogging and the tread-mill, and the hard work in the penal gang; had a terrible pain in my stomach—hardly able to walk up hill; all the people that been flogged always complain of pain in the stomach.

No. 37.

The day after I come out of the workhouse, massa order me to go get bread-nut food for the horses. I said I was not able to climb tree; I was sick, and my shoulders was quite sore, and I could hardly use it, and I tell massa that this make six time that they flog me. He answer, he will make it ten times too, and if I sick, I must die. Every day he keep on order me to go for the bread-nut, but I was not able, and massa threaten me sorely—him tell me, that if I don't make an end of him, he will make an end of me.

No. 38.

On the Thursday next week, he told me he would take me to magistrate next day, and he swear very vengeance against me. I get frightened, and on Friday morning I go away to complain to the Governor. When I get to Byndloss late at night, the overseer, Mr. Allen, meet me, and take me up, and put me in confinement till next morning; then he put me in charge of two constables, who carry me to police station, and the captain, Mr. Mackaw, put handcuffs on me, and sent me to the special magistrate at Linstead, and he put me in the workhouse till massa should send for me; them chain me to another man, and make me work with the penal gang.

No. 39.

On Thursday, William Dalling, the constable, came for me, and them deliver me up to him. We set out, and walk most of the night; get to Walton school, and slept there; in the morning we start again, and reach home about twelve o'clock at night. On Saturday morning, William Dalling take me down to massa, and he send me on to Brown's Town; when the magistrate come he shook his head at me, and said, "Are you here again?" Then they hold court. Massa said he ordered me to cut bread-nut, and I would not do it; me disobeyed his order, and on the Friday went away, and he did not see me again till this morning.

morning. I told magistrate that I did not cut bread-nut, because I was quite sick with my stomach, and massa threaten my life so hard that make me go away to complain to the Governor. Then the magistrate called the serjeant of police, and tell him, lay hold of that fellow, and give him five-and-twenty good lashes; and after the flogging I must be sent to workhouse again for seven days, and after I come out of the workhouse I might go to the Governor or whoever I like, to complain. I told him the old flogging is not well yet, but he would not listen to me; they take me into the market-place, and tie me up to a tree, and give me the 25 lashes; all the people surprise to see them flogging me again, when the old one not well. The flogging was very severe. After it was done, I lay down before the door of the court-house; rain came on, and the police came and told me to go inside. I went in to where the court was sitting, and I said to Mr. Rawlinson, "You don't do justice betwixt I and master. He tell me, that constable swear that I run away without a cause. I ask the constable, and he declare he never say any further than he took me out of Rodney Hall workhouse." Then Mr. Rawlinson say, "I have been before him eight or nine times already;" I say, "If I have been 20 times before you, you ought to do justice 'twixt I and massa." He said, he do justice. I told him, "You don't do justice." Then he said, "If you say another word, I will put you out in the rain;" then he made police take and handcuff me, to carry to workhouse. While I was standing outside the door, I hear massa say to Mr. Rawlinson, he had better let me stop in the workhouse for 14 days; magistrate answer, "That will make it till after new-year's day;" and then he said, "Yes."

The policeman carry me to St. Ann's Bay, but night catch me in the pass, and police take me into Cardiff Hall, and we sleep there that night; next morning, Sunday, he take me on to workhouse, and I had to dance treadmill and work penal gang, like before.

The workhouse was nearly full, like the last time, but most of them was different people; some that I left in, I find still there; there was plenty of woman there, but only one have young child, that was Elizabeth Mason, from Mount Campbell; she was in for seven days to dance the treadmill; she not able to dance good; after she been on little time, she miss step and drop, and hang by her two wrists; then the boatswain flog her with the cat, as hard as he could put it; then she try to fetch up and catch the step, but fall again, and them keep on flog; and when they tire of flogging, then they let her alone, and let the mill go on mashing her legs; all the skin was bruise off her shins, and her legs cut up with the cat.

There was one young mulatto girl in for about 10 days; she was name Margaret, and belong to Mr. Chrystie, the saddler, on the bay; she complain of her stomach, and not able to dance the mill well; they flog her severe, and all her leg bruise with the mill; one evening her master come to the workhouse when she was on the mill; he beg the boatswain to let the mill go fast, and flog Margaret well, and make her feel it, so that she will keep away from it after.

There was another woman, from Drax Hall, on the mill; she didn't dance good, and they flog her very much, and when she find the flogging come too hard, she call out, "Massa, me no one flesh, me two flesh;" she was in family way; but the overseer said he didn't care, it wasn't him give her belly, and after that they was harder upon her.

On Christmas-day them make me and five other men go cut grass for Mr. Drake's horses, and some of the woman go clean his yard and carry water.

As magistrate been sentence me only for seven day, I ask the overseer on the Sunday if my time no up? He look at the book, and say it was put down for 14 day, so them keep me in till Tuesday night after new-year's day, that make two weeks and a half, for they don't count the Sunday.

There was one girl, named Mary Murray, in the workhouse same time as me, from Seville; she tell me not the magistrate write the paper for she to come to the workhouse; the busha write it, and show it to magistrate, and him say it was all right; she tell we all, that what make them send her to workhouse was, that busha say the gang didn't turn out soon in the morning; and when the magistrate, Major Light, come, he send for the gang from the field, but them all frighten and run and hide; only she, Mary Murray, didn't run, and them take she before the magistrate, and send her straight off to the workhouse. All the people that speak to me complain very bad about Major Light; them say him always drunk; I see him drunk myself many times, going about the properties; sometimes I see his servant obliged to hold him in the chaise, he was so drunk; him name is quite common for drunkard through the parish; them tell me, that where him sleep him put the room in such condition that they were obliged to clean it all out next morning.

When he go upon the estate he call to the overseer, "Have you got any thing for me to do—any person to flog?" And if they tell him yes, then him stop; and if they give him rum to drink, he will do whatever thing them want him.

One day, when I was working in penal gang, I saw six or seven of the Windsor apprentices was going to the workhouse to be flogged; it was Major Light send them.

Another day I meet Major Light and the New Ground book-keeper coming down to the bay, and six men, handcuffed and tied with rope, was following after, with two constable in charge of them; they was carried down to workhouse and flogged, and then sent back. Every body say them never see crueller man than Major Light, him in a manner begging the overseer to let him punish the people. Mr. Sowley was a king to Major Light.

The treadmill at St. Ann's Bay mash the people up quite dreadful; I see two woman at Knappdale, one named Nancy, married to Jarvis Webb; the other named Bessy, married to Philip Osborne; them been sent to dance treadmill, and when them come back all their legs bruise up, and make bad sore. I see them with bandage round their legs, and obliged to

No. 40.

No. 41.

No. 42.

No. 43.

No. 44.

No. 45.

No. 46.

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to walk with stick; but the overseer and master no care for the work, or the time them lose, if them can only get the people well punish. Massa tell me to my face that he could do without me very well, if he could get me in the workhouse for six months.

No. 47. One day Miss Senior say to me and some other apprentices, that Mr. Clarke, the busha at Knapdale, tell her that him send two woman to the treadmill, and them come back so well hackled, that them not able to do nothing for three or four months, and she don't know what the devil in we, that we not well mashed up when we come back from the treadmill.

No. 48. Mary Ann Bell, a mulatto girl, one of Miss Senior's house servants, was quite large in the family way; Mr. Rawlinson sent her to dance the treadmill, and when she come back she quite sick, and them strap her hand so tight upon the mill that she partly lost the use of her right hand ever since; she can't hold nothing heavy in that hand.

No. 49. One day when I was at home in the pastures, close the public road, I see policeman carrying down an old man and a woman handcuffed together; the man was very old, he look more than 60 years old; he was all trembling, and hardly able to walk. I beg the police to stop, and let me give them some orange; he do so, and the woman tell me that them sending her to the workhouse about her not delivering her free child to the overseer to let it work. I hear that many people begin to talk that the free child no have no right to stop on the property, and they will turn them off if the mothers don't consent to let them work; this woman come from Orange Valley; but I don't know any thing more about her story.

No. 50. The old man tell me that Mr. Rawlinson send him down to gaol, but him don't say what for; but about two months after, I see him coming back from St. Ann's Bay. It was between Penshurst and Hinton Hill; him hardly able to crawl, his legs and back hackle most dreadful, and all his shirt and trowsers soak up with blood; I look at his right shoulder, and it was all in one sore, in a manner rotten up, with the flogging; I don't think him could live to reach home; he tell me he was two weeks coming from St. Ann's Bay (16 miles), obliged to beg victuals and shelter any place he come to. It was Mr. Rawlinson send him to gaol, and after he been there for a little time, them take him out and carry him before Mr. Sowley, and him put the old man in the workhouse.

No. 51. Some of them magistrate don't care what them do to apprentice, as long as them can get good eating and drinking with the massa and busha, and sometimes them set the massa in to do worse than them want. All the apprentice say that Major Light make it constant rule to do so, and myself see Mr. Rawlinson do so one time; it was the very morning them flog me with the lancewood switches; after the court over, Mr. Rawlinson order his mule ready to go away, and him and massa and Miss Senior was standing at the door; misses was wanting something, and she call Nanny Dalling, when Nanny come, her face "tie up" (*i.e.* looked sour or displeased); I believe she been have some dispute with her fellow servant outside; Mr. Rawlinson say she look sulky and insolent, and him lay hold of her with him own hand, and haul her along to the dungeon, and push her in and lock the door; he left her child, a sucking baby, outside.

No. 52. I was standing by the gate, and see it all, and when Mr. Rawlinson mount his mule to go to Hinton Hill, I hear him say to massa, "You must try to get up some good charge against that woman, and let me send her to the workhouse for about a fortnight;" but massa answer that she have young child. The magistrate answer, "That's no consequence;" but massa didn't like to send her there. Mr. Rawlinson call again at Penshurst same day, as he coming back from Hinton Hill, and he make them bring Nanny Dalling out of the dungeon, and then he sentence her to be locked up in the dungeon for fourteen nights; and them did lock her up every night, along with her young pickniny.

As I tell about other things, I want to tell about one time I do something bad; it was when massa get up a barrel of pork last year, in April; John Lawrence tell me he know where the pork was put, and he would help them with a part of it; two or three nights after they open the barrel, John Lawrence get a long stick, and tie a fork at the end of it, and then he go to the store window and stick the fork into the pork barrel, and get a piece of the meat and draw it to the window; but it couldn't come through the bars, so he come to the kitchen where I was sleeping, and he call me to come and help him; I go with him, and I hold the piece of pork while him cut it in two, and take and boil one-half and give me some, and I eat it.

No. 53. Misses and massa found out that the pork gone, and make noise about it, and accuse all the house servant about it; I can't bear to hear them accuse for wrongful, and I know who did it, so I tell William Dalling, the constable, that I know all about the pork. Then him tell massa, and they call me up, and I tell the truth, that John Lawrence tef the pork, and I help him to cut it, and I eat some of it; them carry we before magistrate about it, and I tell Mr. Rawlinson the same thing, and John Lawrence confess it, and magistrate sentence John Lawrence and me to pay 10 s. a piece to massa for the pork: I borrow the money from my father and another man, and pay it to misses. This one bad action I do, them don't punish me for it.

No. 54. It was the Tuesday evening after new-year's day that they let me out of the workhouse, and I reach home next day. Miss Senior say them been looking out for me since last week, as I only sentence for seven days, and she think say, that I run away and go back to Rodney Hall again. She make pretence she don't know that magistrate alter it to fourteen days, and massa pretend the same, for him send William Dalling, the constable, to the magistrate, the week before, to say I don't come home yet, and him suppose me run away; but massa know very well that I was in the workhouse all the time.

No. 55. Mr. Rawlinson self pretend him don't know I was in the workhouse so long, him say so to make William Dalling fool, because him was present when Mr. Rawlinson try me, and hear him

him sentence me to no more than seven days in the workhouse. Them don't know that I hear them make the bargain to keep me in all Christmas week.

Next time Mr. Rawlinson come to Penshurst, massa try to get me punish again. Him say me didn't come home same day them let me out of the workhouse; he would have it me no come home till Thursday, but it was Wednesday, and I offer to call constable to prove it, and, at last, magistrate put an ending to it, and told massa he must accuse me wrongfully.

*This was the last time they carry me before Mr. Rawlinson, and that was last January.

One Saturday afternoon, about the end of February, Philip Osborn, of Knapdale, came to me, and say that James Finlayson want to see me at Brown's Town that night. James Finlayson was my fellow-apprentice before time, but been buy himself free, and he was a leader in the church. He send tell me that two gentlemen was there that want to ask how apprentice treated, and him know me been treated very badly, so him send for me.

At night I go to the chapel, and see Mr. Sturge and Mr. Harvey, and I tell them all about my bad living; Mr. Sturge tell me, me mustn't discourage, that it only to last 17 months; I tell him, I don't know if I can live to see the 17 months out; I was quite maigre and hungry that time, quite different to what I stand now, I hardly able to get anything to eat then, my ground all gone to pieces, the time them put in workhouse, and if my father and other people ho been give me something, I would have starve. Mr. Sturge give me a shilling, and then I go back home.

On Monday night, Finlayson send for me again, I go Tuesday night, and he send me to Mr. Clarke, the minister. Him ask me if me would like to be free, I tell him, yes; and him ask me if I would pay him back when me free? I said, yes, I would do all in my power, and try my best endeavour to work hard and pay him back. Then Mr. Clarke tell me I must go to magistrate, to give warning to have me valued; I was quite happy and joyful when I hear this; and on Saturday I go to Mr. Rawlinson, at Brown's Town, and ask him to value me, but him say massa entitle to 14 days' warning; he give me paper to serve massa about it, and said he would very glad if I could buy myself, as he have more trouble with me and massa than any body else. I give the paper to misses, as massa was in Spanish Town, and second Saturday after, I go to Brown's Town, to be valued; but when I get there, Mr. Rawlinson tell me, as massa don't come, he couldn't value me, and all I can say no use, he keep on refuse to value me; then I go to Mr. Clarke, the minister, and he come to the court-house, and speak to Mr. Rawlinson, and at last he agree to go on with the valuation.

Him and Mr. Abraham Isaacs and Mr. Fairweather value me; Mr. Joseph Isaacs that keep a store at Brown's Town give evidence. He say he want a boy like me to mind his horse, and follow him to town, and when me free, he would be willing to give me two dollars a week, and feeding and clothes besides; so them fix the price upon me for eight doubloons, ten dollars and a half, and two bitts.*

After it done, Mr. Clarke take me to his house, and give me the money, and I carry it straight to Mr. Rawlinson, and then he give me my free paper, and when I come out of the court-house, I call out, quite loud, "Bless God Almighty—thank the Lord, I get out of devil's hands." Mr. Clarke, the busha at Knapdale, was present: he look quite black at me, but him don't speak.

Then I go straight to Mr. Joseph Isaac's store, and I tell him, I going to come to him Monday, as he say him would give me two dollars a week, and feeding and clothes; he tell me he get a boy already, but he don't get any; he only take swear he would give that, to make them put high value upon me.

Then Mr. Clarke, the minister, told me, it was Mr. Sturge that pay the money for me, and I must go to him at Spanish Town, as he want to carry me to England.

I feel so happy, I don't know what to do with myself hardly; I bless the Lord; and I bless Mr. Sturge for him goodness. If he no been take me away, I couldn't have live long.

On Tuesday I start off, and get to Spanish Town next day; after that we go to Kingston; and two weeks after, Mr. Sturge take me with him on board the ship, and we go to New York, and then sail to Liverpool, and so here I am in England.

The tale of Williams is the tale of near eight hundred thousands of our fellow-subjects, many of them professors of the Christian faith, and heirs of eternal life. He speaks but the language of his class, and details atrocities which would be multiplied a thousand-fold, if his brethren were in like circumstances with himself. British Christians!—for to you we make the appeal—it is with your connivance, and will henceforth be with your sanction, that these outrages are perpetrated. Shall they be continued, or shall they cease for ever? We wait in confidence, but with thrilling interest, for your reply. By your love of freedom, by your sympathy with suffering and dying humanity, by your fidelity to God, by your earnest longing for the salvation of men, by all, in a word, which can move to the discharge of duty or to the mitigation of suffering, we beseech you to be faithful to your high vocation. The friends of the negro race are about to muster on their behalf. Let them be borne onward

in

* That is, 46*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.* Jamaica currency, for one year and five months' service!

The ordinary wages of a good house domestic in Jamaica is a dollar and a half per week, out of which the servant is allowed half a dollar for his own support. A valuation according to this standard, together with the usual deduction of one-third for contingencies, would have brought the true value of James Williams's services to about the sum of 15*l.* for the unexpired term of the apprenticeship.

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in their righteous course by your hearty co-operation and fervent prayers. The blessing of them who are ready to perish will then come upon you, and your name shall be had in everlasting remembrance.

Let it not be forgotten, that the people of England have paid twenty millions for the abolition of slavery, and that a large amount is still being annually drawn from the public revenue, for the support of more than 100 stipendiary magistrates!

Yet, notwithstanding this costly, this monstrous sacrifice of British treasure, the object for which that sacrifice was made has never been attained—*slavery has not been abolished*—it exists with unmitigated rigour, in its most ferocious, revolting and loathsome aspect.

Cruelties unheard of, unthought of in the worst days of slavery, are now being “heaped like burning coals” on the heads of the long-suffering and patiently-enduring sons and daughters of Africa.

And will the people of England look tamely on, and accede to this as the fruition of their benevolent desires? Will they calmly brook the glaring insult offered, the treacherous fraud practised, by the open and flagitious violation of a solemn compact? And will the people of England permit the deeply injured, the helpless, the unoffending negro still to remain the victim of such accumulated misery and brutal outrage?

No! It must not be; the voice of justice, humanity and religion sternly demands that effectual steps be taken to secure full and immediate retribution; we ask not the disgorge-ment of the misapplied twenty millions, but we demand the fulfilment of the bond; the ransom has been paid, but the captive is still retained in his galling fetters!

There is but one remedy; half measures are worse than useless; it requires but a single, brief, simultaneous and energetic movement, and the struggle is over. Let our Anti-Slavery Societies be immediately re-organized; let the country be aroused; let the people, with one voice, instruct their representatives peremptorily to demand the instant, the unconditional and the everlasting annihilation of the accursed system.

20 June 1837.

John Daughtrey, Esq., Special Justice, and George Gordon, Esq., General Magistrate.

No. 1.

MR. SENIOR attended the court at the request of the commissioners, and produced books containing his own record of the complaints brought before the special magistrates, with the adjudications and sentences.

Referring to the first page of the narrative, Mr. Senior stated that, since August 1834, he had discontinued giving herrings to the apprentices, from their bad conduct; the same with regard to the usual Christmas allowances.

His late apprentice, James Williams, is now about nineteen and a half years old; he was never flogged, but may have been occasionally switched during slavery. Mr. Senior admitted that James Williams had been flogged six times between the 1st of August 1834 and the date of his release from apprenticeship, by order of the special magistrate, and three times committed to the house of correction.

Mr. Senior denies the truth of every part of the paragraph immediately preceding that marked No. 1. in the copy of the printed narrative, transmitted with the other documents from the Queen's House, and returned with this report; but admits the punishments described to have been inflicted by order of Dr. Thompson, in paragraph No. 1; he denies, however, that his apprentices were complained of without just cause. Dr. Thompson, as therein stated, partook of the hospitalities of Penshurst on the occasion.

No. 2.

Mr. Senior also denies having accused James Williams of having a stone in his hand for knocking down Mr. Senior or his sister. James Williams did on that day pretend to be mending a wall round the house, although not ordered to do so; he was occasionally employed in work of that kind; and was at that time about the age of 16. The constable of the property commenced inflicting the punishment ordered on the occasion, but the magistrate not being satisfied with his manner of discharging his duty, desired the police to finish the flogging. Mr. Senior denies having said that the constable was not flogging hard enough; and is certain that the back of James Williams was not cut at all.

Mr. Senior states that there was a sufficient fence round the corn-piece, but that the corn was notwithstanding all destroyed, through the neglect of Henry James, who was always complaining of being sickly; it was in consequence of his sickly state that he was put to watch. The flogging which he received was trifling, and he was attended in the hospital by Dr. Tucker. Mr. Senior believes Henry James to have been an African, and about 48 years of age at the time of his death; he is well aware of the sudden death of Henry James in Brown's Town, but has no knowledge of the place where he fell being covered with blood. Mr. Senior never received any notice from Captain Andrew Dillon to attend at Brown's Town, in consequence of Henry James's complaint to him as a magistrate.

No. 3.

Mr. Senior admits that James Williams and Adam Brown were brought before Captain Andrew Dillon, charged with repeated acts of insolence and disobedience of orders; one of the charges might have been for not turning out the sheep until a late hour. Captain Andrew Dillon

Dillon sentenced them to be confined in the dungeon of Knapdale for ten days and nights, during which time Mr. Senior asserts they were furnished daily with sufficient provisions for their support, which were generally carried by the father of Adam Brown. Mr. Senior is confident that, on the return of James Williams and Adam Brown to Penshurst, that he never made any such remark as "that they had not been punished half enough;" but that he simply desired them to go to their work as usual.

No. 4.

Mr. Senior recollects Mr. Rawlinson's coming to Penshurst, and is aware that the people were sent for to ascertain whether they had any complaints to make. This mode of proceeding is always usual where a new magistrate comes to the district. James Williams and Adam Brown, apparently under some apprehension, went to Captain Andrew Dillon next morning, who sent them back under the protection of the police, with a letter, stating that they could not be punished twice for the same offence. They were carried by Mr. Rawlinson's orders to Brown's Town, on the same day, where they were tried before him, and sentenced to receive 20 lashes, which were inflicted on the spot by the police, and which were very severe. Mr. Senior was not aware of their fainting or lying on the ground for some time. They returned from Brown's Town that afternoon with the constables, and refused to turn out the horses; slept in the kitchen that night, and on the following day they were admitted in the hospital, the door of which was not locked, except at night. No food was given to them, but their friends had access to them during the day. On the morning of the next day they were ordered to turn out, and return to their duty, which order, after much hesitation, they obeyed, and went to their work as usual. Their backs were dressed on that day (Friday) by the hothouse woman. Mr. Senior did not examine the backs of James Williams and Adam Brown on the Saturday, nor take any report of the hothouse woman of the state they were in, but it was his, Mr. Senior's, opinion, that the men were fully capable of resuming their duty. Referring to this book, Mr. Senior stated, that the above punishment was inflicted on the 5th March 1835, and this statement was confirmed on perusal of Special Justice Rawlinson's official return of that date.

No. 5.

Mr. Senior states that he again complained, on the 4th of April, to Mr. Rawlinson, at Penshurst, against James Williams, who had been insolent to his mistress. Miss Senior, my sister, told me that she was glad I had returned, as the people in the yard were taking the canes which had been cut for the hogs, and that she saw James Williams eating some. On James Williams being asked by me what right he had to the canes, he said, "It was a lie, and he wished that people would speak the truth." Although repeatedly told to be silent, he would not cease his insolence. I deny having complained of James Williams so soon as 10 days after the 5th March, or that he received any further punishment before the 4th April. I believe that Mr. Rawlinson might have slept at Penshurst the night previous to the punishment, on the 4th April, being ordered. I am not aware that James Williams begged the magistrate not to flog him, on the plea of his back being still unwell from the previous flogging, and I feel persuaded that Mr. Rawlinson remained to witness the execution of the sentence, as it was his custom to do so. James Williams resumed his work as usual after receiving the punishment.

No. 6.

Mr. Senior affirms that James Williams was allowed to take one day in each week, up to the period of his being sentenced by the magistrate to forfeit time, and that he was only required to watch at night alternately with Adam Brown, sleeping in the kitchen; that Sundays were not allowed him, except occasionally, and that he, Mr. Senior, was in the habit of giving him food from his table, till he forfeited the kindness by his bad behaviour.

No. 9.

Mr. Senior said, "On the 11th of July I ordered James Williams to appear before Mr. Rawlinson on the next morning; instead of doing so, he absented himself, and was not seen again until the 5th of September, when he was sent home from Brown's Town by Mr. Rawlinson. I have no recollection of his being confined in the dungeon for 10 days before trial. The sentence on this occasion was, nine days' confinement in the house of correction, to be worked in the penal gang, and placed on the treadmill twice every day, and on his return to be confined during shell-blow, till the magistrate's next visit to the property, and to forfeit 50 days: he came home on the 25th September."

No. 15.

Mr. Senior states that James Williams was in the hospital, and remained there 12 days, from the 13th to 25th October, receiving the attention of Dr. Tucker.

No. 16.

Mr. Senior states that James Williams paid, from the 27th September 1835 to the 20th November 1836, 30 of the forfeited days, by working the half of every Wednesday, the remaining part of the day being at his own disposal. Mr. Senior adds, that instead of working the whole half Wednesday, he (James Williams) was always released from duty at nine o'clock, and, though a non-prædial, was frequently called upon to perform no other work or

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duty until the next morning. Mr. Senior admits that James Williams subsequently made up the whole of the 50 days.

No. 17.

Mr. Senior admits the allegations of this number, with the exception of having told the people that they must work until one o'clock; all that he said was, that they should work the four and a half hours, taking their breakfast as usual. Mr. Senior, however, denies having himself put the people into the dungeon, but states that he merely gave orders to the constables to do so: the people put into the dungeon were Joseph Lawrence, Thomas Brown, William Mills and Benjamin Higgins.

No. 18.

Mr. Senior states, that Miss Senior observed to James Williams that he had no business here, and it would be better for him to go and eat his breakfast. Mr. Senior adds, that he might have threatened to strike James Williams, but that he did not do so, and denies having spoken disrespectfully of the magistrate. Having ordered James Williams to be locked up with the rest, while the constable was putting him in, he said, "God never made man to rule the world, and man should not rule it." Mr. Senior is not certain whether the people were kept in the full 24 hours.

Nos. 20, 21 and 22.

Mr. Senior said, "I sent to Mr. Rawlinson directly after confining them, and he came on the Monday and tried Joseph Lawrence, James Williams and Amelia Lawrence. Mr. Rawlinson sentenced the two former to work in the penal gang for seven days, and to be placed on the treadmill twice every day. I have no recollection of their being ordered to be flogged, nor have I any memorandum of that part of the sentence. Amelia Lawrence was sentenced to seven days in the house of correction."

No. 23.

Mr. Senior is not certain as to the number of Amelia Lawrence's children. The three people, after being sentenced, were put into the cell until the next morning, when the police came to take them to the house of correction. Mr. Senior is not sure that they were supplied with food from the house, but states that their friends were not prevented from carrying any to them.

No. 36.

Mr. Senior said, "All three of them came home on the 1st December; James Williams complained of being unwell; he asked for and received a dose of salts on the next day, and took day on Saturday, the 3d December."

No. 37.

Mr. Senior states, that James Williams, after he returned from the workhouse, refused to bring bread-nuts, alleging that his stomach pained him so much that he could not climb the trees; Mr. Senior denies having made use of the threatening language attributed to him in this paragraph.

No. 38.

On the 8th December, it being James Williams's turn to sleep in the kitchen, Mr. Senior states that he inquired for him before he went to bed, and was told that he had fed the horses and gone away. Mr. Senior believes that he might have expressed his intention of taking him to the magistrate, but not within the hearing of James Williams himself.

No. 39.

Mr. Senior said, "I received information from the supervisor of St. Thomas in the Vale workhouse, that James Williams was in custody there. I sent constable William Dalling to bring him home, and caused him to be carried to Brown's Town the next morning for the purpose of being brought up before the special magistrate, Mr. Rawlinson, who sentenced him to receive a catting, to be worked on the treadmill, and to remain in the house of correction 14 days; I then observed to Mr. Rawlinson, 'That will make it till after new-year's day.'"

No. 48.

Mr. Senior said, "I know that Mary Ann Bell was sentenced on the 26th August by Mr. Rawlinson to the house of correction for eight days, and to be worked on the treadmill. On her return, she complained of having received an injury in the right arm; I have no reason to think that the injury was at all serious; she was pregnant at the time, and gave birth to a child, I believe, in the January following; but I solemnly declare that I was not aware of her condition at the time of her sentence."

No. 51.

Mr. Senior states, that Nancy Dalling was very insolent to Miss Senior, in the presence of Mr. Rawlinson; and upon that gentleman's going to speak to her, she treated him with contempt, by turning her back upon him; upon which he called for a constable, and, as no one of them was at hand, he thrust her himself into the dungeon. On my informing him that she had a young child, he ordered it to be put in with her.

No. 52.

No. 52.

Instead of the conversation as related in the paragraph, No. 52, Mr. Senior says, that Mr. Rawlinson observed he would call back on his return from Hilton Hill, and, if Miss Senior would then prefer a complaint against Nancy Dalling, he would send her to the house of correction; but Miss Senior said, she would rather have her placed in solitary confinement on the property. Nancy Dalling was then taken out of the cell, and sentenced by Mr. Rawlinson to be locked up for 14 nights. She had her infant with her in the cell, from which she was released at the expiration of two or three nights, in consequence of having begged very hard.

No. 53.

Mr. Senior admits that this paragraph is substantially correct as to the quantity of pork stolen, and as to the admission by James Williams of the fact, that he absconded on the occasion, and was apprehended by the constable five miles from home. Mr. Senior further states, that this is not the only instance of many of his dishonesty, for on going into the corn-piece on the 1st March 1836, the watchman said, that it was James Williams who had been stealing the corn, as some had been discovered in the coach-house, which he claimed; the watchman in the garden also detected him stealing yams, and he was in the habit of plundering the stores, and stealing provisions of all kinds.

Nos. 54 and 55.

Mr. Senior says, that there was some misunderstanding as to the length of time for which James Williams had been sentenced to the house of correction; and both Mr. Rawlinson and himself were under the impression that the confinement would have expired in seven days, but there can be no doubt that the sentence was for 14 days.

No. 56.

Mr. Senior denies ever having tried to get James Williams punished for not coming home the proper day from the workhouse.

Mr. Senior states that the valuation of James Williams took place in his absence from the court.

Referring to No. 53, above, Mr. Senior admits that he never preferred any charge, either before a special magistrate or otherwise, against James Williams for dishonesty; that he considered his pilferings as petty thefts, and not worth bringing forward.

Mr. Senior states, that Henry James was flogged on the 19th December 1834, and died on the 6th February 1835.

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Personally appeared before us, George Gordon, magistrate for the parish of St. James, and John Daughtrey, special justice, commissioners for the investigation of certain alleged abuses in the administration of the abolition law in the parish of St. Ann, Gilbert William Senior, Esq., of Penshurst, in the said parish, and deposed as follows: That one day at Penshurst, Nanny Dalling, an apprentice on that property, was very insolent to Miss Senior, in the presence of Mr. Special Justice Rawlinson; that upon Mr. Rawlinson going to speak to Nanny Dalling, she treated him with contempt, by turning her back upon him; on which, Mr. Rawlinson called for a constable to place her in confinement, but none being at hand, Mr. Rawlinson laid hold of her, and thrust her into the dungeon himself; and deponent further saith, that on his informing Mr. Rawlinson that Nanny Dalling had a child at the breast, he ordered the same to be put into the dungeon with the mother; deponent also saith, that Mr. Rawlinson observed, before leaving Penshurst, that he would call back on his return from Hilton Hill, and that if Miss Senior would then prefer a complaint against Nanny Dalling, he would send her to the house of correction; but Miss Senior replied, that she did not approve of that mode of punishment in the case in question, and would prefer her being placed in solitary confinement on the property. Nanny Dalling was therefore sent for from the cell, and sentenced by Mr. Rawlinson to be locked up for 14 nights; and deponent further saith, that, after having been locked up two or three nights, Nanny Dalling begged Miss Senior, and was then released. Nanny Dalling always had her infant with her in the cell.

(signed) *G. W. Senior.*

Sworn before us, this 21st day of September 1837.

Geo. Gordon.

John Daughtrey.

Thursday, 21 September 1837.

Edward Lawrence, an apprentice to Penshurst, sworn.

I remember having been flogged at Penshurst, by order of Dr. Thompson; James Williams and myself were flogged. At the same time Henry James and Thomas Brown were flogged, and two boys, named Thomas Mills and William Graham, were switched. I do not know how many lashes James Williams received, but he was one that was flogged by the constable, Alexander Mills, and not by the police; his back was not much cut on that day, and he put his shirt on after the flogging. The police flogged Adam Brown and Henry James; Thomas Brown was flogged by the constable, Alexander Mills. Henry James's flogging was very severe, his stomach was bruised by the cart-wheel to which he

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was tied to receive his punishment, and his back was more cut up than that of James Williams; Henry James was old and weakly; he had been a watchman, but was working in the field in the great gang at the time he received the flogging. I never heard him complain of his stomach before he got the flogging. Henry James went to the hospital after he was flogged, and complained that he could not get any medicine; he then went to Captain Andrew Dillon, at Brown's Town; I saw him on his way, and he had with him a small calabash, containing what he said he had brought off his stomach; I looked at it, and saw it all bloody. I saw his dead body on the place where he fell; some blood was oozing from the mouth; the calabash was empty, and the contents appeared to be spilt out on the ground where he dropped. I never knew that Henry James spit blood till after the flogging; he told me that at every lash he received his stomach knocked against the nave of the wheel to which he was tied, and he got injured by it; he said that he felt injured from that time, and he believed it was that which made him spit blood.

Note.—Edward Lawrence is apparently about 65 years of age; his punishment was for insolence, on the complaint of Miss Senior. Upon recollection, Edward Lawrence said, that Joseph C. Dorrell was also switched with the others.

Thomas Brown, alias Thomas Brown Lawrence, an apprentice to Penshurst, sworn.

On the same day that Dr. Thompson came, I was flogged by Alexander Mills, and got 30 lashes; the flogging was not severe. Alexander Mills flogged James Williams; his flogging was not severe. I heard master complain that the flogging by the constable was too light, and upon that Dr. Thompson ordered the police to flog the rest, that is, Henry James and Adam Brown. James Williams put on his shirt after he received his flogging; his back was much bruised, but no blood came from it. The flogging of Henry James and Adam Brown by the police was very severe, their backs were cut up and bloody. I saw James Williams after his return from Brown's Town, where he was flogged a second time; his back was very bloody and bad. I don't know whether he went to the hothouse. I knew Henry James to be weakly, and that he was working in the field before his trial. After he received his flogging he came to the hothouse (this was about a week after), and I was in the hothouse at the same time. I saw him vomit a great quantity of blood at night, but I never knew him to spit blood before the flogging. Henry James himself told me that he thought the spitting of blood was caused by the severe flogging which he received.

Dr. Edward Tucker sworn.

I saw Henry James once in the hospital at Penshurst, when he complained to me of cough and pain in the stomach; he showed me a small quantity of blood in a calabash, which he said he had spit up during the night. I was present on the day that the special magistrate, Dr. Thompson, visited, and during the punishment; I am not certain whether I prescribed for Henry James previously or subsequently to the infliction of the punishment. I remember the return of James Williams from the workhouse, and his being in the hospital; he was seriously ill, and I think it probable that his sickness may have arisen from his confinement in the workhouse. I prescribed for Henry James, whose complaint I thought was slight. From his appearance that day, I thought him a weakly old man. I saw the backs of all the people who were flogged, but I did not particularly examine them; none came to me to complain of the severity of the flogging, but I recommended to Miss Senior the usual application.

Mary Ann Bell, a mulatto non-prædial apprentice to Penshurst, sworn.

I remember being sent to the workhouse and treadmill by Mr. Rawlinson, when I was quite heavy in the family way, nearly half of my time being gone. I was tried on the 26th August, and I gave birth to my child in the third week of January. Two or three weeks after I returned home, I felt pains in my wrists; the pains were on that part which had been strapped to the treadmill; I also felt pains in my knees. I do not feel the pains now at all times; I only feel them now and then. I have the perfect use of both my arms and hands, with exception of the little finger on the left hand, which I cannot straighten, owing to the effects of a sore on it, which was caused by the hoe at the time that I was in the penal gang, and digging cane-holes. The pains in my arms and knees left me soon after the birth of my present child. I was able to keep the step on the treadmill, except once, when I hung for a short time by the strap. Mr. Drake then stopped the mill, and took me down; I never knocked my shins against the wheel so as to cause a sore. Mr. Drake knew me at Penshurst, and I believe he was more kind to me on that account. I only saw one woman (from Ballingloy) flogged whilst on the mill, because she could not keep the step; she was whipped about the legs and shoulders, and wherever they could strike her. I was never punished again after my return from the workhouse, but one day, when I was in the kitchen, and unable to go to my usual duty from the pains already described, Mr. Rawlinson was at the house, and the house people having been called up, I heard Miss Senior complain to Mr. Rawlinson about my not doing any work; when he said that if she would bring a charge against me, that he would send me back to the house of correction. This circumstance I believe took place about a month after I returned from the workhouse. Mistress did not wish me to be sent back there, or Mr. Rawlinson would have done it. Before Mr. Rawlinson began to visit Penshurst, my mistress gave the house people Friday and Saturday every week, and Sunday the next; but Mr. Rawlinson told her that they were not entitled to

to half a day in each week, and advised her not to give them any more. My mistress however has continued to give them more time than that, but not so much as they received before. I know that Henry James sent to Miss Senior for medicine when he was sick in the hothouse, and that she always gave it when he sent.

Mr. John Patterson, a carpenter residing at Ridge settlement, in the parish of Saint Ann, sworn.

I knew Henry James, of Penshurst; I am at present a master carpenter, and reside at the Ridge settlement, and am employed by Mr. Utten Todd, the proprietor; I lived at Penshurst up to November 1836, and had the management of Mr. Senior's tradesmen. I knew Henry James as a sawyer in 1820 or 1821, but of late he was a watchman; he was put to watch, from inability to do other work; he used to complain of his stomach, and was a very old man, about 60 years of age; when I first knew him he was a true African; I mean by that, that he was a good negro, not like a creole; he was always willing to do his work; I was not at Penshurst when Henry James was punished in 1834; I went to Penshurst in November 1835 and left in 1836. I knew James Williams; when I first knew him in 1820 he was then a little boy, and would often come and play with me, but when I returned to Penshurst in 1835, he was a wicked, worthless boy, and was very impudent to his master and mistress; he was also a great thief, stealing every thing that he could lay his hands upon; indeed he was so bad, that at last I would not have him near me; he would not mind his master's cattle, and Mr. Rawlinson used to talk to him by way of intimidating him. I am not aware that he was flogged seven times; he did not work under my management, but I often saw him, and considered him a very unfaithful servant; I never preferred any charge against him for theft, although he used to rob my cupboard; he never stole any valuables from me, all that he took was something to eat and drink; he was always coming about me, and whenever I came in on horseback, he would run to hold my horse, and take my saddle, and do any little thing for me; I only wonder he did not put me in the paper too; I believe that his motive in serving me this way was to get something for himself in return for his services, or to get opportunities to pilfer my cupboard. When James Williams was a child, he was under my care, and used to call me father or daddy. Independent of the piece of pork which he was charged with stealing from his master, he used to steal my yams and meat; I knew that it was him, for he used to acknowledge it to me; I had some yams in a bag over a beam in the house, he took out two or three of them, and when I taxed him, he said that he had taken them; he always had plenty to eat, and did not steal from the want of food; he thought he could take the liberty with me as he used to call me daddy, and he therefore imagined that he could daddy me out of any thing.

I cannot specify any other instances of his having stolen things from me.

William Dalling, a constable on Penshurst, sworn.

I remember Mr. Rawlinson's coming to Penshurst and punishing the apprentices; I was one of the parties tried; I was not found guilty, and therefore was let off. Edward Lawrence, James Williams and others were tried at the same time that I was; I saw the flogging which James Williams got that day; his skin was waled, but not much bruised; I did not see any blood on his shirt. Thomas Brown was also flogged; I was near by and saw them all tied to the cart-wheel to be punished; James Williams and Thomas Brown were flogged by the constable, and my master, Mr. Senior, called out that he did not flog them enough; that their skins were not sufficiently bruised; he and Mr. Rawlinson then came up, and ordered the police to flog Adam Brown and Henry James; these two were very severely flogged; Henry James was very much cut up, and the next morning he went to the hospital; I saw him there the morning after he was flogged, when he complained of great pain in his stomach, in consequence of having been lashed to the wheel like the rest; while they were flogging him he struggled a great deal; he was a short man, and when he stooped at each lick, the pit of his stomach came against the nave of the wheel; there was no doctor woman in the hothouse; Henry James remained there, and never left it till he went to Brown's Town to complain to Captain Dillon; he died at Brown's Town the same day that he went up; when he was in the hospital at Penshurst, the doctor ordered a blister for his stomach; but he told me that my mistress, Miss Senior, would not give it; all that she gave him was a candle-grease plaster, which was of no use to him; he used to cough very badly in the hospital, and spit blood, and the floor on which he used to spit always looked as if a pig had been stuck there; he fell lower and lower, and when he found himself getting very bad, he determined to go to Brown's Town to the magistrate; I saw the body after he died, I was at Brown's Town, and saw it on my return home; it was on the road-side, and to prevent his being eaten by the hogs, I watched it from six o'clock in the evening until the next morning; I observed a great deal of blood all about the nostrils and the mouth, but I did not see any on the earth; I saw close to the body a little cocoa-nut cup, with blood in it, which Henry James brought with him to show Captain A. Dillon. Henry James was always a very weak and sickly man, but he did not cough and spit blood until after he received the flogging; he went to Brown's Town to the magistrate, because he did not receive any attention in the hospital, and he wanted the magistrate to require my master and mistress to give it; I am certain that the floor of the hothouse was covered every morning with the blood which Henry James puked up; he always complained to me of pain in the stomach; Dr. Tucker used to see him often enough; he was often at Penshurst when the people were flogged, but I never saw him take any particular notice of the marks from the flogging.

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I saw James Williams after his return from Brown's Town, where he had been flogged by the police; his back was sadly cut; Peter Atkinson carried him to Brown's Town the first time, and I carried him the second time; he was flogged with Adam Brown, when he was very badly cut up over the shoulders. After receiving the first flogging, James Williams came home at night and went to the hospital; I do not remember particularly how many days he remained there, I think it must have been about a week; he then went to cut bread-nut; Margaret Ellis attended him when he was in the hothouse; some time after the first flogging which James Williams received at Brown's Town, Mr. Rawlinson came to Penshurst, and slept there; on the next morning a complaint was made against James Williams, and Mr. Rawlinson ordered him to get 20 lashes; he could not receive it, as his back was not well, and my mistress, Miss Senior, ordered me to flog him with lancewood switches; the scabs were on the old wounds, they were not well yet, and after I found they were so bad, I struck him lower down; he was not able to beg off, for as soon as the magistrate gave his sentence, Williams was ordered off to receive it. When I first began to flog him with the switches, the scabs on the old wounds broke off, and the back began to bleed; it was then that I flogged him lower; I laid the flogging on lightly, as lightly as I could, and myself and some of the other apprentices bathed his back, and rubbed it with grease; he went to work immediately to cut grass; nothing stopped him from going; he did not seem to mind the flogging much, he was a very brave boy; when he ran away the first time, he was brought home by the police, and put into the dungeon by Mr. Rawlinson's orders until he returned; I don't think he was confined a whole week; he had handcuffs on; when Mr. Rawlinson returned he sent him to the workhouse; I don't know for how many days; I did not see him flogged there, but when he came home he said he had been; on his return from the workhouse, he was put into the dungeon, and kept night and day there for about a week without any magistrate seeing him, but as he got very weak, he begged to be let out, and he was; I know that he paid back a number of days; when he came home at this time he was quite sick, and Dr. Tucker attended him, as he complained a great deal; I remember the Friday when the negroes were ordered to sit down and take breakfast, instead of working throughout the four and a half hours; I did not get any orders on the subject before that day, and when I went to tell them to take the usual breakfast time, I saw the people in great confusion; when massa found that they would not obey his orders to take the breakfast time, he desired me to go and fetch up Joseph Lawrence, the other constable, and lock him up; massa also ordered me to take up Thomas Brown, William Mills and Benjamin Higgins; they were all put in confinement; Joseph Lawrence said that he could not help it, that the people would not obey; master said that he would be obeyed; when I was going to the dungeon with Joseph Lawrence and the other people, I saw that massa had secured James Williams, and put him in the dungeon; master ordered him to go in, and he went; I don't mean to say that master put his hands on him; I did not hear James Williams make use of any expression as he was going in, but just as I locked the door, massa told me that Williams had said, "God made the world, it wasn't man that made it, and man can't rule it." The people were kept in the dungeon until six o'clock the next morning, and were then let out; in a few days after Mr. Rawlinson came, and the whole gang was brought up; James Williams was tried for saying, "man did not make the world, and man can't rule it;" James Williams said that he did not mean any harm, that he did not mean the words as magistrate took them; Mr. Rawlinson ordered him to go to the workhouse, but I don't remember the nature of the sentence. Joseph Lawrence and Amelia Lawrence were tried on the same day, they were also sent to the workhouse; Amelia Lawrence was tried for being always at the first row; this was the complaint brought against her to Mr. Rawlinson by my master, who said to her before he brought her up, "It is because your brother is the head driver that you want to be a head woman;" she replied that she had never neglected her work, and that massa ought to be glad to see her keeping up with the strongest people; Joseph Lawrence was tried for disobedience in not getting the people to draw off when master wanted. Amelia Lawrence had four children; I know that two of them are free, and that one of them is an apprentice; I am not certain whether the other is free or not. James Williams, Joseph Lawrence and Amelia Lawrence were all three of them put into one dungeon; I don't know whether they had any thing to eat; the next morning the police came for Lawrence and Williams; they handcuffed them, and carried them to the workhouse; Amelia Lawrence was carried also to the workhouse, but they did not put handcuffs on her; Amelia Lawrence is a married woman, she is the wife of Richard Lawrence; when she came back from the workhouse, she told me that the driver, James Thomas, was always persuading her to be unfaithful to her husband; that he used every means to deprive her of her virtue; and when he found every evening that he could not succeed, the next day he was sure to treat her ill at her work; she did not say that James Thomas had used any force, but told me that he kept following her every day until she was discharged; and the way he used her ill was by putting her to do two persons' work, and giving her heavy weights to lift up; she said that her feelings were so much hurt at the way she was pursued by Thomas, that she was more than glad when she was discharged from the workhouse; she had four children, they are all by Richard Lawrence, her husband; she further mentioned that the same attempts made by James Thomas to make her do wrong were made on other women who were in the workhouse, and that with some of them he succeeded. When James Williams came home he did not look very droopy, as he was always a lad of good spirits; he complained of his stomach, and said that he was not able to cut bread-nut, as he could not climb; he remained at home about three weeks, and then he ran away; I went for him, and found him at Rodney Hall workhouse, in St. Thomas in the Vale; I brought him to massa at Penshurst, and he sent him to Brown's Town under my charge, to be carried before Mr. Rawlinson; he told Mr.

Rawlinson

Rawlinson that he had tried all he could to please master, that he had brought as many bread-nuts as he was able to cut, and as master was not satisfied, and threatened to have him punished again, he was going to the Governor to complain; Mr. Rawlinson ordered him to be flogged again by the police; I was present at the flogging; I don't know how many lashes they gave him; before the magistrate passed sentence he said to James Williams, "I have more trouble with you than with any one else, and you may go and complain to the Governor, or to any one else you like." James Williams's back was not yet sound well from the last flogging; I was by the whole time that the police were flogging him; he was tied to a tree, and was very severely catted; his back was all in one sore, from the nape of the neck to the small of the back; Williams told me that Mr. Rawlinson threatened to put him out in the rain, because he said "Mr. Rawlinson, you only do just on one side;" I did not myself hear Mr. Rawlinson threaten to turn him out in the rain; I went down with him and the police to Penshurst, and he got a clean shirt, and Margaret Ellis bathed his back, the police then took him to Saint Ann's Bay workhouse; I thought that he was sent there for 14 days when I heard the sentence passed, but, on counting the days, I found that he remained there longer than that; he came home on a new year's day; I did not hear any conversation with master and him after his return, nor did he appear sickly, as he was always a brave boy; I remember his being charged on one occasion with stealing pork out of a barrel in the cellar; James Williams and John Lawrence at that time always slept in the kitchen; Lawrence got a fork, which he tied with a piece of string to a stick, and lanced the meat in the barrel, which he drew near to the window; when I discovered that John Lawrence was concerned in the theft, Williams got ashamed of his share in it, and ran away; he was absent for two days; I went after him, and found him at Miss Smith's, at Runaway Bay; on his way home he confessed to me that he had a share in eating the pork, but that he had no hand in stealing it; he was brought here to be tried by Mr. Rawlinson, when he said he would pay for it; he said he would pay 10s.; the magistrate then consented that he should pay 10s. as a settlement of the affair; if James Williams had been encouraged, he would have been a very good servant; I miss him now a great deal; he was trying to make a good ground, but he did not have his regular time, and his father, who is a watchman, always assisted him; I do not know that he was a bad thief, nor he was not an upstart, he was always laughing and making fun, and I used to reprove him for it; I don't think he could, with justice, be called a dishonest man; he had never been brought before a special magistrate for theft except in that one instance about the pork; he was never proved to have stolen any thing.

The Court.—William Dalling, you have given your evidence in so correct and highly creditable a manner, that we cannot dismiss you without expressing ourselves extremely pleased with your conduct.

Dalling.—Thank you, gentlemen.

Mr. Daughtrey.—You appear to have benefited much by the instruction of your minister, the Rev. Mr. Clarke, and his predecessors (of the Baptist Mission). Observing many persons present, I cannot resist the inclination I feel to avow my perfect conviction, that the labours of ministers, missionaries not of the established church, have been of incalculable value to the colony. In the district in which I have chiefly resided, their efforts have always come in aid of the proceedings of the magistrates; crime has been repressed and industry promoted by the influence they have exerted. For myself, indeed, I hesitate not to declare that, but for such auxiliaries, my own duties might have become so irksome and oppressive, that I should very likely have abandoned them.

Mr. Senior.—Indeed, sir! Then you have been a great deal more fortunate than we have been.

Mr. Gordon.—I feel confident that these gentlemen are doing great good in the country. The properties under my charge have been considerably benefited by their instructions.

Charles Trueman, an apprentice to Penshurst, about 70 years of age, sworn.

When I am sick I receive attention from massa; I have no fault to find with him; he gives me physic and takes great care of me. I remember James Williams digging some yams out of the ground I was watching; I did not see him; massa came to the ground and missed the yams; I saw the yams two days afterwards in a pear-tree hole; I saw James Williams come to the tree in the evening with a basket, and put his hand in the hole as if to take out the yams.

Mr. Senior.—I believe this is the only one of my people who will speak the truth.

The Court.—Mr. Senior, we will not allow any imputation of that sort; the witnesses who have been before us to-day have given their testimony in an honest and creditable manner.

Adam Brown, apprentice to Penshurst, sworn.

I remember when Dr. Thompson came to Penshurst and ordered some of the people to be flogged; I was one of them; I was flogged by the police and received twenty-five lashes; some of the people were flogged by the constable, but Mr. Rawlinson said that they were not flogged hard enough; I am certain it was Mr. Rawlinson who said so and not master. James Williams and Edward Lawrence were flogged by the constable; Henry James and myself and Thomas Brown were flogged by the police; Henry James's stomach hit every now and then on the axle of the wheel; every lick that he received his stomach knocked against the cart; he never complained of his stomach before the flogging, but he complained a great deal about it afterwards; he went to the hospital, and I used to see him there; I used to see

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the blood on the ground that he spit up; he complained that nobody from the house took any notice of him; I saw a round calabash in which there was some of the blood that he spit up; he remained some time in the hothouse and then he came here to Brown's Town to complain to Captain Dillon; I was here at the same time to be tried myself. When he made his complaint, Captain Dillon said, "You must come back again next Thursday;" he replied "that he had no strength to come back, and that he did not think that he should live so long;" a little while after he went out, he dropped down and died; I saw the body as I was passing on my way to Knapdale under sentence of the magistrate to be placed in solitary confinement in the Knapdale dungeon; the earth on which the body was covered with blood, and blood was also gushing out of the mouth and nostrils; the calabash was on the ground with the blood in it, which he brought up to show to the magistrate; none of the blood was lost out of it. I helped to move the body to the side of the road; it was raining at the time; the rain would have washed away the blood from the part of the ground where the body was; the frock that I had on was all stained with blood which came from Henry James when we were lifting him. I was taken to Knapdale dungeon and locked up with James Williams; it was very damp; the ground was not floored; I could lay down at full length and stand upright; the dungeon was very dark, there were no holes at the top nor at the sides; there were small holes in the door which gave a little air, but Mr. Patterson the carpenter came and peeped in, and when he did that he stopt the holes. All the food we got in the dungeon was two plantains each, and sometimes three, with a pint of water for a whole day's allowance; the last day that we were in the dungeon we were pretty well fed; they gave us a good allowance of plantains and cocoas. Our food was brought every day by William Atkinson the head constable on Penshurst, since then he has bought himself free. We were never let out of the dungeon for the necessities of nature, nor did any body ever clean the dungeon out during the ten days, the filth was allowed to remain in it the whole time in a bucket, which was placed for our use. I was very weak when I came out, but I went home the same day although I could scarcely walk; when I reached Penshurst, before I could speak, master cried out, "You are not punished half enough yet;" he sent me immediately to cut bread-nut, and desired James Williams to go and mend a gap in the wall; I told master that I had nothing to eat, he replied, "Go away and cut bread-nut;" as I had eat a hearty breakfast in the morning, I said nothing, and went to my work. I was punished after that by Mr. Rawlinson, who sent me to the workhouse at Saint Ann's Bay for not sleeping in the yard; he ordered me to be put on the treadmill twice a day for ten days; there were a number of women on the wheel, some of them had young piccaninnies; there were a great number of men also, and when we could not keep the step, both men and women were flogged with a cat; I heard Mr. Drake myself order the driver to flog a woman who could not keep the step. James Thomas, Scipio and Richard Laing were the drivers who went into the field; John Thomas followed the sickly gang in the yard and James Bolt attended the mill; dancing the mill was very hard work; a man by the name of Smith, who came in from Dry Harbour, had his shins nearly cut off; I remember seeing a woman come off the mill with scarce any of her clothes on; they had been nearly all stripped off by the labour and the flogging; the boatswain called on Mr. Drake, when she was unable to keep up, and Mr. Drake replied, "Flog her;" Mr. Drake sometimes for spite would put the mill at great speed by raising up the lever; I don't remember the boatswain having done so; I remember seeing persons so bruised after coming down from the mill, that they have been obliged to go to the sea side to wash off the blood from their knees.

Parson Johnson used sometimes come and read prayers at the workhouse on Sundays, and after that the men were obliged to go and cut grass at Draxhall, and bring wood and water; the women were employed on Sundays in cleaning out Mr. Drake's yard and also in cutting grass; I was fed very well in the workhouse; a quart of flour and the half of an ale-wife was the allowance for each person for a day; I used to cook my flour myself, as I would not trust it to the cook; we were worked in chains on Sunday, the same as on any other day, but we were not put on the mill; I was in the house of correction for ten days, during that time I never saw any local magistrate or doctor there, they may have visited when I was absent in the field; I have not been punished since the time that I returned home from the workhouse.

William Dalling, recalled.

When I flogged James Williams with switches, I did not observe Mr. Rawlinson standing up to see the punishment laid on; I don't know when he went away; I remember when Nanny Dalling was locked up in the dungeon with her young child; Mr. Rawlinson got into such a passion with her, that he would not allow her to say a word; he was very violent; he laid his hands on Nanny Dalling and shoved her in the dungeon; she is my daughter; Mr. Rawlinson rode away and returned some time after, the same day; I did not go to hear what orders he gave about her, as I was very much hurted; she was locked up at nights but not during the day; she was locked up for about five or six nights; her child was always put in with her. I remember when Mary Ann Bell was sent to the house of correction, she was then pregnant; any person without being told so could have seen from her size that she was pregnant; her child has got the yaws now; it has had the yaws for 12 months; Mary Ann Bell stops at the negro house to mind her child; in the pimento season she sews bags, and at other times she does any little work that mistress sends to her; I am certain that Atkinson, and no other, carried food to James Williams and Adam Brown when they were confined in the dungeon at Knapdale; sometimes two plantains and a pint of water were carried to each of them for a day's allowance; three plantains were very seldom sent; I only remember one occasion that so many were sent; the last day they were in, in addition to the
plantains,

plantains, they had some cocoas; I know the dungeon in which James Williams and Adam Brown were confined, it was very damp and close.

Friday, 22 September 1837.

Peter William Atkinson, formerly an apprentice on Penshurst, sworn.

I was at one time an apprentice to Mr. Senior, but I am now a free man; I purchased my freedom in February 1836; when James Williams and Adam Brown were confined in the Knapdale dungeon for ten days, I carried their food for them; no body else ever carried it; sometimes I carried six plantains for the two; sometimes I carried five; I also carried a pint of water for each; I never carried so few as four plantains; Captain A. Dillon said that they must be fed upon dry roasted plantains and a pint of water each; he did not mention how many plantains they were to have; as I knew that the food sent for them was too little, I sometimes carried them a little boiled food, which was made up by myself and the other apprentices; I always received the food for them from Miss Senior herself, or from the cook, to whom it was sometimes given to be cooked and handed over to me. The last day that James Williams and Adam Brown were in the dungeon some cocoas were sent for them; they never had any cocoas or any thing else but the plantains sent to them on any other day but that. I know the cell at Penshurst, a short person like me could stand up in it, but a tall man could not; one day Mr. Allen went in to see it, and was obliged to stoop; he said to master, "This is very difficult;" master said, "It is good enough to put them devils in." The dungeon at Knapdale is high enough to stand up in, it is very damp however and swampy, and not fit for a person to lay his body in; whenever there is rain all the water runs in to the dungeon, and any persons confined in it must lay down in the wet, unless a board is placed there for them; neither air nor light can get in. James Williams and Adam Brown had two small tubs in the dungeon for the uses of nature, which were never emptied until the last day that they came out; I used to let them out sometimes in the morning when I carried them their food; sometimes they would go out, at others they would not; I am certain that the tubs were never emptied until the last day. I know Mary Ann Bell; I can't exactly say who is the father of her children; Mr. Drake the supervisor of the house of correction often visited Penshurst, but I don't know whether he had any improper intimacy with Mary Ann Bell. There was no regular hospital at Penshurst, the place used as such was part of a carpenter's shop; the shingles were very bad, and when the rain came down it poured down upon the people; the floor was also very damp; men and women were locked up together; I remember that James Williams had to pay up a great number of days by order of the special magistrate, I can't say how many, but it took him a long time to pay them; in consequence of that his ground was neglected; the stock used to get in, and he became so short of provisions, that I and others through charity were obliged to assist him with something to eat.

I was valued twelve months before I got the money to pay for my freedom; I was badly used and cheated of my time; I made a complaint to Mr. Rawlinson both for myself and the other people; we were then working on the eight-hour system; Mr. Rawlinson asked if I knew what was meant by the eight-hour work; I said "Yes," and explained it; I thought we ought to have had two hours for dinner, and one for breakfast, to commence work at six o'clock in the morning and leave off at six in the evening; Mr. Rawlinson said, "Yes, that is right;" I complained for loss of time, because I thought that we had not even the hour at breakfast and two hours for dinner, and because it was sometimes dark before we left off work; when Mr. Rawlinson went away, Miss Senior came out and said, "So, Mr. Peter, you went to complain about your time to the magistrate; you ought to be well punished for it;" Mr. Senior then came out of his room and said, "I'll make you see the very devil before you get that freedom;" he said this to all of us who were working before the house; he then began upon me; I was employed at sawing at the time; all that I could do would not please master; he came to me one day when I was at the sawing pit and found great fault at my not having finished the piece of wood which I was sawing; it was a very hard piece of bullet tree; he said, "I'll see whether Mr. Rawlinson wont make you saw any more;" my general day's work was, to saw fifty feet of bullet tree or ninety feet of cedar per day; master went away after saying what he did about Mr. Rawlinson; this happened on a Friday; on the Monday morning following it rained very heavily and I had to saw a stick in the yard where the pit was; George Henry Warren and myself had to do it; the pit had a great deal of water in it, and the water reached as high as my breast; I had to hold the saw at the bottom of the pit; I endeavoured to empty the pit of the water but I could not do it from the heavy fall of rain which continued until shell turn-out; after that we got the piece of cedar over the pit and entered the saw upon it; water was still in the pit, but from the constant drawing it did not reach further than the bend of my knee; we cut off two slabs that evening; the stick was about thirteen feet in length; I was in the water the whole time, and did not go away until shell-blow at six o'clock. On Tuesday, Warren and myself went to the same work at the usual time; about eleven o'clock I observed Mr. Rawlinson coming into the yard through a drizzle of rain with an umbrella over his head; he went into the house and a little while after two policemen came up, with a cat and a rope; Mr. Patterson, the carpenter, at that time was working near the gate with a brown man, named William Grant; Mr. Patterson brought William Grant to the pit and said, "William take over these two fellows to the magistrate;" I then came out of the pit and said to myself, "It is hard to get a flogging when I am doing my work." I then ran right off to endeavour and avoid it; Warren went away too; the police were sent after us, but, not being able to catch us, they

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turned back ; the place where we hid ourselves was a thicket, so much covered with bush that no body could see us, although we could see every thing that was going on in the great house and at the negro houses ; I saw master and Mr. Patterson, the carpenter, go to the negro houses, each of them with a stick in his hand ; Mr. Rawlinson remained in the house ; he was in the house but I did not see him ; the first house they went to was George Henry Warren's ; Mr. Patterson kicked at the door, but as it was very strongly secured it did not give way.

Note:—Mr. Rawlinson came into the court at this stage of the proceedings, and mentioned to the Commissioners, that he had not received any notice from his Excellency the Governor of the particular day that the investigation was to commence.

Peter William Atkinson, in continuation.

My master took up a block and dashed the door open ; after opening the door, he went in as if to search for something ; after that they went into my house, the door of which they kicked open ; they turned my bed upside-down as if they were searching, and then they came out and went away : I then went into my house, took up a bundle of clothes, and returned to the place where I was hiding. Mr. Patterson, the carpenter, returned soon after, and began to sing,—

“ This is the house that those fellows preach in,
Hallelujah ! Hallelujah ! Hallelujah ! ”

He could not see me, but I could see him and all that he did. I was accustomed to have family prayers in my house at night. While Mr. Patterson was in my house, the people from the great house came and took out all my chairs, tables and benches and stools ; they took out sixteen pieces altogether, and carried them to the great house yard ; Mr. Rawlinson was in the great house all the time ; any body there must have seen the things when they were carried up to the yard ; I thought to myself, “ If the magistrate who is sent to protect the apprentices allows all this to be done, and sees that it is done, I must go to the Governor, as I have no person else to go to and make my complaint.” My furniture was lodged in a room where master keeps his saddles and corn in the great house yard ; Warren and myself went to the King's House, and we saw Lord Sligo the Governor ; we made our complaint to him, and he told Mr. Ramsay to take down all that we said ; after that he sent us by the police to Mr. Rawlinson, at Brown's Town, with a letter ; when we go there, Mr. Rawlinson read the letter and said, “ So you have been to the Governor with a heap of lies about your master ; but you did not tell the Governor that you keep a methodist chapel.” Mr. Rawlinson then gave us a letter to master, and sent us back to Penshurst ; when I go to Penshurst I found that my house had been pulled down ; on inquiry I was told that it had been cut down by four apprentices, named Thomas Brown, William Mills, Joseph Lawrence and Richard Lawrence, who were ordered by master to do so ; I was also told that master was present at the time, and with a long stick assisted in breaking off the shingles. This information was given to me by the very people who were ordered by master to pull the house down ; some time after Mr. Rawlinson came to the property and read to us a part of the Governor's letter ; he then desired us to go to work and saw fifty feet of wood per day ; he desired Warren and myself to pay back six Saturdays for the time we had been absent from the property ; from that time I was worked through all weather, and at all times. By way of punishment we were given bread-nut logs to cut through in their green state, even without stripping off the bark, so that it was impossible for us to get through our task ; we were obliged to work even during our dinner-time to endeavour and do so. At last, on the seventh Saturday, finding that I could stand it no longer, I then got the money and brought it to Mr. Rawlinson to purchase the remaining term of my apprenticeship. While we were working at the pit one day, master came to us and said “ You are not punished half enough by the magistrate, I should like to get you in the workhouse for six months, as I am able enough to hire a pair of sawyers in your room ; ” he added “ There is one good thing, the Governor did not hear your complaint.” My furniture was not returned until after I purchased my freedom, nor was any house given me to live in, in lieu of that which had been pulled down, I therefore was obliged to go to Knapdale, to sleep at my wife's house ; previously to mine being pulled down, she used to come there occasionally and I would go to hers. After my house was pulled, Thomas Brown Lawrence was desired by my master to dig up every one of my plantain suckers ; he did so, and they were planted in master's own ground.

I borrowed nearly the whole of my money to pay for my freedom. When I was first valued I was valued for eleven doubloons, but when I got the money, after a year and two months has passed, I was valued for twelve doubloons ; I am still working to pay off the debt of my valuation. A few months after I bought myself I happened to meet Mr. Rawlinson at Beverley, and applied to him about my things ; a few days afterwards they were put out on the barbecue, and my friends took them and brought them to me ; they did it of their own good-will. All this has been done to me. I consider that the treatment we all received from my master proceeded from his wish to do us all the injury he could ; from the time that the 1st of August came, he said he would do every thing to annoy us ; he not only said this, but he did it ; he said that he would have a law of his own, and that those English devils (the magistrates), and those Baptist fellows should not do as they liked on his property. As to that b-y, James Williams, poor fellow, he was a boy with a good heart.

William

William Mills, an apprentice to Penshurst, sworn.

I was one of the persons who master ordered to cut down Atkinson's house; there were four of us; we carried axes, and master went with us; we commenced knocking down the walls; those posts which we couldn't pull down, we were desired by master to cut away with our axes; master knocked down a part of the Spanish wall with a long stick which he had in his hand; he said, "I will have this house down, and you must go somewhere else to preach, I won't have it for a prayer house." It was Atkinson's house, and he used to live there; he kept every thing in it that he was worth; there were several tables and chairs in it, which master made us take out and put into a room in the great house yard; the house was pulled down on the same day that Atkinson went away; he had a noble garden, with plenty of plantain suckers in it; I don't know that they were dug up, but master gave the garden to a girl named Mary Ann Bell, and I afterwards saw the cows and hogs in it. We all of us used to meet sometimes in Atkinson's house to join in prayer; I did not think it right in master to have the house destroyed, but as he gave the orders we were obliged to obey; as far as I saw, Atkinson was very poorly treated during his apprenticeship; he worked very hard, and was very badly treated; master was not satisfied with any thing he did. I knew James Williams, and remember his having had to pay a great number of days; it took him a great time to pay them back, and therefore he could not attend to his grounds; the hogs would be on one side and the cattle on the other, eating it down; sometimes he was poverty itself, and would have starved if he had not got help from his brother apprentices. I heard that he was accused of stealing yams; it was not proved against him; it was at the time that he had to pay back so many days; he was badly off for victuals; I remember being put into the dungeon for refusing to work as master wanted us to do on the half Friday; we said we would work our four hours and a half at once, but master wanted to draw us off at the usual breakfast time, and make us work the balance of the time afterwards; master put me and Thomas Brown and Joseph Lawrence in the dungeon, because he said we advised the people not to work as he wished; he ordered me in himself; the constable met me, put me before him, and then locked me up; we were locked up on Friday about 11 o'clock, and let out about the same time next day; James Williams had been put in the dungeon before we were put in; when master took Atkinson and Warren from the saw-pit, I was put to work there; but as I was a new hand I did not work well, and master used me very badly for it; it was the first time I ever held a saw; I was never given any regular task, but I did all I could to give satisfaction; I was not sawing more than a week, when master put me in the dungeon for not doing good work; he always threatened to bring me before Mr. Rawlinson; I was put to saw bread-nut head which is the hardest of woods, with another young hand like myself; how then could I be expected to do well? This is the first time that I was put into the dungeon; I was put in from evening until next morning; Richard Lawrence, the person who was sawing with me, was also put into the dungeon at the same time. I knew Benjamin Higgins, he and James Williams and Joseph Lawrence were put into the dungeon with myself the second time that I was confined there; I was not brought up before the special magistrate after I had been locked up for not sawing enough wood.

Joseph Lawrence, an apprentice to Penshurst, sworn.

I was one of the people who was sent to pull down Atkinson's house; I was in the field when master called four of us, and desired us to go with axes to Atkinson's house; we went there; master and Mr. Patterson followed us; master ordered us to take our axes and pull down the watling and the posts; we did so; master was present all the time, and he helped himself to pull down the watling; he made us carry all the furniture to the great house yard; I didn't hear him give any reasons for pulling down the house, further than saying that the negroes were "playing the devil," by making it a meeting; his words were "It is here you all meet and play the devil in the negro houses, you shan't meet here again." I was a constable once; I had not been one for more than a week, when master put me in the dungeon one Friday; I was driver of the gang; master one Friday blew shell for breakfast, and the people said that they would rather work their four and a half hours out at once; master desired me to tell them to go to breakfast; I tried all I could to make them go, but they would not; I went and told master; he said, "Go back and tell them that they must go to their breakfast;" by the time that I could go back, master ordered William Dalling to take me up; I went with William Dalling to the dungeon; I was the first who was put in; James Williams was brought in afterwards; as I was inside, I did not hear any thing that he said; Benjamin Higgins, William Mills and Thomas Brown were also put in; we were kept in the dungeon until the next morning (Saturday), and then let out; we were let out about breakfast time; Mr. Rawlinson came one day the next week; I was tried for not making the people go to breakfast; Mr. Rawlinson sentenced me to the workhouse; as I went in I was catted; I don't remember how many licks I got; every morning and evening I was put on the treadmill; James Williams went with me to the workhouse, and received the same punishment; I think we were kept in for ten days.

Amelia Lawrence was tried the same day for being at the first row; master said, "It is because your brother is the driver, that you put yourself at the first row, and want to be the head woman." She was also sent to the workhouse. The food that we got in the workhouse was a pint of boiled corn, which was drest by the cook in the field, and one ale-wife between two persons; this was given to us in the morning, and we got nothing else until the next day; I am certain that we only got a pint of corn; I know the difference between a pint and a quart; a pint is sold for 5*d.*, and a quart for 10*d.*; we were used badly enough in the

workhouse;

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workhouse ; five persons used to be put on the treadmill at a time, and sometimes more than that ; the first day I went on, the mill bruised my knee a great deal ; the blood ran all down from my shins ; when the people could not keep the step, the driver flogged them ; he did not flog me, because I soon caught it ; the women were flogged as well as the men ; they were flogged on their legs, and some of them were flogged very badly ; I have seen women hanging on the mill by their hands, as they could not keep up ; then they were greatly bruised ; I have seen many women on the mill who had young sucking children ; the children were left in the yard when they were taken to dance the mill ; the women were also put on the mill morning and evening, and sometimes their pain would be so great that they would bawl loud enough to be heard a great way off ; I saw several women from Hiattsfeld on the mill ; some of them had young children ; there were a great number of these women in. On Sunday morning the men were sent to cut wood and grass, and bring water ; the women were employed in sweeping the yard of the workhouse, and Mr. Drake's yard at his own house ; we were chained two and two on Sundays, the same as on other days ; while I was in the workhouse I never saw any minister of the Gospel come there on Sundays ; I have seen several women faint on the treadmill ; when they were in that situation sometimes they were taken down, and at other times they were left hanging by their wrists until the other people were taken off ; I never saw any magistrate visit the workhouse while I was there ; Drake used to flog the people sometimes with his riding whip, and sometimes with his supple-jack, both off and on the mill ; he used to flog the people for his pleasure, and would say, " You are a worthless set and won't work for your master ; " he never flogged me ; Mr. Drake used to visit master's house very often. I knew an old woman by the name of Sally, belonging to Coolshade ; she was often put on the wheel, but was not able to work ; she used to hang on the wheel, and get severely flogged ; Mr. Drake used to flog her himself ; I have seen the drivers flog the people both in the field and in the yard ; they used to flog both men and women ; the drivers were bad people. I remember that Amelia Laurence complained to me of James Thomas, one of the drivers, for wanting her to consent to his improper wishes ; my sister was persecuted a great deal by this man, and felt much hurt about it, as she was a married woman ; the young women whom the drivers took a fancy to, were put by them to light work ; the women who had young sucking children carried their children out on their backs, and were never let out of the field even if it rained ; the children were placed at the fireside with the cooks ; sometimes when the children cried very badly, the mothers were allowed to give them suck, but this was when Mr. Drake was not in the field ; if he was in the field he would not permit the women to give their children suck ; I don't remember seeing the women working in the field with the children tied to their backs. When the people are on the mill, sometimes it is made to go faster than at other times ; the driver always holds the pole, and he can make it go faster or slower as he pleases, sometimes it went so fast that some of the people missed the step and hung, by which means they cut their feet ; I don't remember its going so fast as to make all the people who were on hang by their wrists ; I remember that James Williams used to complain a great deal about his stomach, particularly when he had to climb the bread-nut trees. I was not by when he was flogged by William Dalling with the lancewood switches ; I remember that at one time he had to pay to master a great number of days ; he could not attend to his grounds, and his provisions were eat up by the hogs and cows ; I used to go and help mould up his cocoas for him, and gave him provisions sometimes to help him in his distress ; I heard that he was accused of stealing yams, but I don't remember the particular time ; with regard to Atkinson's garden, master sent Thomas Brown, desiring him to dig up the plantain suckers and plant them in his (master's) corn-piece ; the whole of them were not dug up ; only the young suckers were dug up ; I believe that the ground was given to Atkinson's children, Peter and Willy ; William Dalling is a constable now ; he can't please massa ; nobody can please him.

Amelia Lawrence, an apprentice to Penshurst, sworn.

I was tried once by Mr. Rawlinson, in consequence of master's disputing with me about work. Mr. Rawlinson sent me to the workhouse, but did not mention to me how many days I was to be in the workhouse ; when I came back, master told me that Mr. Rawlinson said I was to pay back ten days as an additional punishment. The next time that I was punished, I was sent to the dungeon at Penshurst in consequence of a dispute about my working at the first row ; the next morning I was brought up before Mr. Rawlinson, and I begged him not to punish me. Master's complaint was, that I worked at the first row, and that I took upon myself to do so because my brother was a driver. I was sent to the workhouse for this. I am a married woman, with a family of four children ; I was put on the treadmill morning and evening. There can be no harder work than treadmill punishment ; the mill bruised my legs and gave me great pain, but the greatest pain I felt was between my shoulders ; I have never recovered up to the present moment from the punishment of the treadmill. I have pains all about my body since then, which I cannot get over, particularly those in the small of the back ; my wrists and fingers are so hurt that they are swelled even now ; some of the people used to feel very faint upon the mill, and when they could not keep up the boatswain would not take them off, but would whip them well to make them go on. One day a man by the name of Jenkins, who was an under busha, hit me a whop after I came off the mill, and made use of very bad expressions to me ; the expressions were so bad that I can't make use of them now. Jenkins had a spite against me because I would not consent for him to have an improper connexion with a girl named Catherine Bayley, who was in the workhouse ; I was obliged to say that Catherine Bayley

was

was my daughter, in order to protect her from Jenkins. James Thomas, one of the boat-swains, wanted me to consent to do what was wrong with him; he kept on following me for this purpose all the time I was in the workhouse; I could not get any rest for him; I saw a woman go one night to one of the drivers, but I could not distinguish which of the drivers it was who called her. I saw a whole set of women who had come in from Hiattsfeld; they were sent to the workhouse before I went in, and they were dreadfully cut upon the mill; several of them had young children; there were very few of them able to work in the field, not more than four or five, the rest were locked up, having been knocked up by the treadmill; they were quite lame, and sometimes they would fall off the mill, and water would then be thrown over them to bring them to. One young woman in particular had her legs so bad that she could not turn herself, and another, who was big with child, was dreadfully hacked; but an old woman who had a daughter named Affy, from Hiattsfeld, was worse knocked up than any of the rest; there was another woman, named Mrs. Byfield, also from Hiattsfeld, with a young sucking child; she was also placed on the mill; the woman that was so big with child had such pains that she could not bear any person even to touch her. I do not remember her name; there was no doctor woman nor any woman whatever to attend to the sick people. The drivers always came before day to count them, and it was at that time they would endeavour to gain over the women for improper purposes; they frequently put questions of this sort to me, but I never consented; I know one woman, however, who was bad enough to do so. I never saw any doctor come to hothouse; to tell the truth, if the people wanted medicine it was the boatswain who gave it. James Thomas was the driver who used to follow me, and ask me to give myself up to him. I used to fret much, and told James Williams about it, he said "Never mind, they can't do you any thing." Mr. Drake often used to say "You Penshurst and Chester people are always neglecting your masters' business and minding preaching, and I'll make you sick of coming here; I'll beat the methodist out of you;" him and master were great friends, he used to visit master very frequently. When James Thomas found that I would not consent to his wishes, he used to treat me very badly. One day Mr. Drake gave Catherine Bayley a good beating, saying she was Miss Senior's waiting maid, and must have been impudent to her or she would not have sent her to the workhouse; the people were all shackled at night. When Catherine Bayley and I were in the first time, we used to sleep in shackles, and with big chains about our necks every night; last time I was in they were not so particular. The life people were fed with flour every day, and the rest were fed with corn; one shad was given between two persons. When I came out of the workhouse, some time after, about Christmas, I was going to the hothouse, but was obliged to lay down on the ground from exhaustion; master passed, and when he saw me, he laughed, and calling out to some of the apprentices said, quite gladly, "You see what she is come to." He appeared quite glad at the way I was reduced, and made use of the most indecent expressions and oaths towards me. One would not think that a gentleman could make use of such words; I remember a woman from Hiattsfeld, who fainted on the mill; they took her down, and she laid down tumbling in the dirt like a hog; water was thrown upon her, and her fellow-apprentices fretted a great deal about it. I was chained to a woman named Susan White; she was big with child, and was put every day on the mill; she used to hang very often on the mill; the women were always strapped tightly to the board above the mill. I knew a woman named Sally, belonging to Coolshade; she was old and weak; she was chained to a woman named Mimba; I don't remember the christian name of the woman to whom she was chained; the women were beaten from morning till night; Mr. Drake used to beat them himself; Mimba was a young woman, but a poor thing; I don't remember seeing Sally on the mill, but they used to beat her at all times. I know Banker's negro houses; one particular day, when the gang was working there, the rain fell very heavy; on the way home the old woman, Sally, could not keep up with the rest, and they beat her well that day; the drivers used to beat her until she tumbled down; they never played with her, but beat her cruelly; she was beaten every day when we were doing hard work, and she could not keep up with the rest. When the women with young sucking children went to work in the field, they left the children at the fire-side; if rain came the children got wet; the mothers were hardly allowed to give the children suck; sometimes they made a woman, named Rebecca, belonging to Tobolski, tie her child to her back and work in the field. I don't remember seeing Mr. Hylton, the clerk of the peace at St. Ann's Bay, in the workhouse, but I have heard of his being there; I remember a woman, named Eliza Nathan, who was in the workhouse; she was there at the same time that I was; she could not dance good, but was always very faintish, as she was with child; one day she dragged upon the mill and was obliged to be taken down; I did not see her catted; her shins were much peeled; she was obliged to be sent into the hospital of the workhouse; her shins were cut up, but not so bad as those of a woman, named Eliza Osborn, from Knapdale; she was mashed up in a very bad manner. The women's work on Sunday was to clean out Mr. Drake's yard and carry water; the men were employed in cutting grass; the chains were kept on us on Sundays as well as on other days. All that we got to eat was a quart of corn, which was given out in the morning, and a shad between two of us; this was to last us the whole day. I have seen women come off the mill with a great portion of their clothes torn, but not so bad as to expose their persons indecently. The negroes of Penshurst have no half Fridays now, and when I complained about it to Mr. Rawlinson, he told us that the Governor himself could not compel our master to give us the half Fridays.

This witness, after finishing her testimony, informed the court that her master, Mr. Senior, is now in the constant habit of flogging her daughter, and that he does so every day without any cause whatever.

Saturday, 23 September 1837.

Mr. Senior appeared, and, having been informed that Peter Atkinson had charged him with pulling down his house, admitted having pulled down a house which had been considered as the house of Atkinson, which he afterwards claimed, as it was a nuisance; Mr. Senior said that he did not consider the house as the dwelling-place of Atkinson, as he did not sleep in it, but went at night to his wife at Knapdale; Mr. Senior claimed the right of pulling down the house as a nuisance, as it had been made an improper use of; he admitted having done so during the temporary absence of Peter Atkinson. Mr. Senior then mentioned that Peter Atkinson used to make excuses for turning out late in consequence of sleeping at Knapdale, alleging that he had no house at Penshurst; this was previously to the destruction of the house. Mr. Senior said that there was a small bed-room attached to the house which was not taken down, and that Atkinson had no other house on the property than the one which was destroyed; he considered it a nuisance in consequence of the great noise made there at nights by the strange people who congregated there for purposes which he does not know; he considered their meetings unlawful, and wished to prevent them; he did not know where the nuisance was previously to the day when he went to see if Atkinson had gone from the house; there was a bed there which he did not trouble, but he took out some chairs and benches, which were delivered up afterwards; there was only one bed in the place, and that was in the room which was not pulled down. The house appeared to be appropriated entirely as a sort of chapel; there was one or two packages with clothes which were taken away, but were given up afterwards on being claimed.

Eliza Finlayson, an apprentice to Penshurst, apparently between 12 and 13 years of age, sworn.

I am the daughter of Amelia Lawrence; I was born before she was married; I have been switched since the 1st August 1834. No longer than Monday last, master flogged me with his chaise-whip; I have been frummed often and put into the dungeon. On Monday last, master came up and hit me a lick, and I run off; he then came back and hit me two licks with the chaise-whip over my head. I was digging dung in the yard with a boy named Richard Brown; some of the dung was left, and master called me to dig it up; as soon as I went to the place, he took his chaise-whip and struck me; master has flogged me often enough before this time, particularly one day when we were working in the grass piece; he came that day with his chaise-whip and flogged me and a boy named Davy; he flogged me on my back; he never made the constable frum me, but often said that he would make him do so; he flogged me this day because he said that we were standing up and not doing any work. Master not only frum me sometimes, but he frums the other boys and girls. Last Monday he was standing on the Barbecue, and when he called me to dig up the dung he went into the house, brought out the chaise-whip, and then flogged me with it; I never complained to the special justice, nor did any of the other boys and girls complain; plenty of us have been put into the dungeon at times; I was there not long ago; I was put in on the Friday night, and let out the next morning at buckra's breakfast-time; I was put in with old Ann Campbell, Abis and Phillis; we were put in for not being in the field in time after breakfast; we had been working in the morning and went to breakfast at shell-blow, and, as our breakfast was not ready, we returned to work a little late; master was there when we went to work, he made the constable put us in the dungeon when we drew off from work at four o'clock in the evening. The other people had not worked much when we returned to the field in the morning; they had not worked more than ten or twelve feet; the work they were doing was hoeing grass. I have been put into the dungeon often enough before that time, not by orders from the special magistrates but by master's own orders. In answer to a question put by Mr. Senior, this witness said, "I was only brought up one time before Mr. Rawlinson, and I never told him that I would not work when he told me to do so." One day master carried us all to Mr. Rawlinson, but he did not complain of us; he only complained of the great gang. Mr. Rawlinson ordered the great gang to pay a Saturday. I was sitting under a custard apple tree, and did not hear what the magistrate said; he may have ordered all the people to pay the Saturday; the third gang, to which I belonged, I am certain, was ordered by master to pay the Saturday, but I don't know whether the magistrates told him to make us pay it or not. Mr. Senior on question from the court said, that he had at times put parties in the dungeon, but had always mentioned his having done so to the special magistrate on his visit to the property, although he had not preferred a subsequent complaint against them, and that the special magistrate had given his sanction to him to act in this manner. Mr. Senior then asked the court, as they mentioned that such a proceeding was illegal, what was to be done with the small gang when they committed faults; he wished to know whether he had not authority to switch them?

The Court.—No, decidedly not; you have no legal right to do so.

Mr. Senior.—Dr. Thompson, a special magistrate, told me that I had a right.

Ann Campbell, an old weakly woman, apparently about 60 years of age, sworn.

I was driver to the little gang, and master told me that when they behaved wrong, I must switch them. I said "No; I could not do it, as the law would not give me right if I switched any body." I told him that if he wanted the children to be switched he must carry them to their mammys, and let them switch them. After this Mr. Rawlinson came, and

massa

massa said, "You must send this woman to the jig mill." Mr. Rawlinson said, "What has this poor old woman done to be sent to the jig mill?" Master replied, "She wont flog the picaninnies." From that time master cursed, and cursed, and cursed me at all times. One day, after the Mulgrave law come in, I was in the field, and I said to driver that I wanted to go aside for a particular purpose, but when master heard it he cried out, "There is no law for that." This was Friday; I was obliged to go aside, and master took and locked me up in the evening, and let me out on Saturday. Master told constable that he locked me up upon this account. Another time the shell blow for breakfast; I had been carrying dung, and went to my hut to get my breakfast; when the shell blew to turn out, I left the hut, but, as I could not walk as fast as the others, I was lated in the field. When I got there I saw massa; he abused me for turning out late, and in the evening he made the constable put me and Abis, and Lizly Finlayson, and another of the girls in the dungeon. Mistress (Miss Senior) called out to the constable, and said, "Hawl her by the neck, and put her into the dungeon." Mistress said that it was me who they were to hawl, but the constable said "No, he could not do so, as the law did not tell him to do any thing like that." Master threatened me after I came out of the dungeon to send me to Brown's Town, to the magistrate; he then told me, "You are a driver for the piccaninny gang, and if you wont frum them when they do wrong, you must work." He then turned me out to work in the small gang, and I am now working there. I have a big swelling or rising in my back. On Monday last I went to mistress, and begged for some grease to make a plaister to put on it; mistress cursed me, and said, "Go to Mr. Clarke, the Baptist parson, since you carry your master to law, and make him cure you." I told her that I had never carried master to law; she then cursed me, and walked away without giving me the grease. Sometime before this I had a blister on my back; Dr. Tucker ordered it to be put on, but before mistress gave it me she and master abused me in such a manner that I was ashamed as a dog. At the time I had on the blister there was no doctor woman in the hothouse, and, as I wanted to get it dressed, I got a mulatto woman, named Mrs. Mills, to cut it; when massa saw her cutting it he abused her a great deal; rather than remain in the hothouse with such treatment, I went out, raw as the blister was, to work. I went first to my ground on a Saturday, and cut a few corns, and dug a few victuals, so as to prepare for the Monday. On my return it rained very hard; it rained like thunder. The constables came up to me, took me in my wet clothes, and locked me up with them on in the dungeon; there I remained till next morning; constable locked me up by master's orders. I did not get any food all the time I was in the dungeon, although I told my master that I had not had any thing to eat the whole day. I begged him for something to eat, and he said he would not give it. In reply to a question from Mr. Senior, this witness stated that some time last week she was met by her master, in his time, with a basket of provisions on her head; she was then going to her work, and believes that it was about an hour and a half after the time she ought to have turned out. Mr. Senior assured the court that there is very little truth in the statements made by Ann Campbell and the other apprentices from Penshurst; on being asked by the court whether he wished to ask any questions, or bring forward any witnesses to refute what had been already given in evidence, he replied in the negative, saying at the same time that it was his intention to bring a number of them before the quarter sessions on indictments for perjury, more especially the man named William Dalling. Mr. Senior further remarked, that there was no occasion for his further attendance, as it was his intention to go to Spanish Town, where he would communicate with his Excellency the Governor, and report to him all that he had seen and heard.

Susan White, an apprentice to Dunbarton estate, sworn.

I recollect being sent to the workhouse some time ago. I was chained to Amelia Lawrence, of Penshurst, and I was then in the family way. I was five months advanced, and had a mischance at seven months; my pregnancy was plainly to be seen by my size. I was put on the treadmill twice a day, but I don't know how long I was kept on. I was sentenced to the workhouse for ten days. On a Thursday evening I danced the mill longer than usual, and was so tired that I fell off. One of my hands first slipped out of the strap; I called to them to stop the mill, but they did not, it went round quite fast; then my other hand slipped out of the strap, and I fell down quite senseless. When I recovered, I found myself in the room where they used to lock us all up at nights, and I was told that some of the women had picked me up, and carried me there. No doctor attended me, and I was never put on the mill again. I went out of the workhouse about two weeks before Christmas, and I had a mischance in February; the pains never left me from the time I came out of the workhouse till I had the mischance; I have never been in good health since then. When I was in the workhouse, I was never flogged on the treadmill, as I used to keep the step very well; but the driver used to flog the other people, both men and women. I went out to work with the workhouse gang in the field on the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday; I got wet sometimes, but, as I had dry clothes of my own, I used to change when we returned from work. We used to get a quart of flour and a half of a share each for our day's allowance of food. I saw several women in the workhouse with young sucking children. One woman from Tobolski had a child almost named; she used to carry it to the field, and it got wet from rain very often. The child was generally left with the cook, and when it rained the mother would, by consent of the drivers, go and shelter it as well as she could; she also was allowed time to go aside and suckle it. On Sunday mornings we were obliged to sweep out Mr. Drake's yard, and carry water; we were chained two and two, the same as on other days. The men were

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employed in carrying grass. The first time I went to the workhouse I did not see any doctor come there, but one used to come there the last time I was there; I never saw a parson there on a Sunday. I was chained to Amelia Lawrence, of Penshurst; one day she said to me, "Partner, look here; look here upon this ring upon my finger; I am a married woman, and the driver, James Thomas, is always putting bad questions to me." I felt for her, and cried; I said to myself, "After Amelia is a married woman, and the driver puts such questions to her, what must I expect who am not a married woman?" No question of the sort, however, was put to me at that time; but when in the second time, a man by the name of Thomas White, who was a driver and boatswain, tried to do what James Thomas tried with Amelia Lawrence. I told him no, that I was a married woman, and to make him believe it, when my sister came to see me, I took a ring off her finger and put it on. The next time he asked me, I showed him the ring as a proof, and he did not trouble me again. This was about the month before last. At the time Amelia Lawrence complained to me I did not hear him joke her; the drivers always opened the women's apartment quite early in the morning. It was Mr. Rawlinson who sent me to the workhouse that time.

Maria Anderson, an apprentice to New Hope plantation, the property of Mr. W. Codnor, sworn.

I have been in the St. Ann's Bay house of correction; no driver ever endeavoured to have any improper intimacy with me. I was sent to the workhouse for two weeks by Mr. Rawlinson; I was chained and worked with the other people in the field. I have no reason to complain of the boatswain or any one else. I was not there when Amelia Lawrence was in, nor did I ever see the people working on the mill. I was always locked up at nights with the other women, and the drivers opened the door in the morning to let us out, but I never saw them endeavour to have improper intimacies with any of the women; I was never on the treadmill.

Mr. *Rawlinson*.]—I know that I sentenced you to be worked on the treadmill.

Maria Anderson in continuation.

The treadmill was not yet finished; they were just completing it when I went in.

The Court.]—We are glad that Mr. Hamilton Brown, a magistrate of the parish, is present, because we have been informed by Mr. Codnor, the owner of New Hope, that Maria Anderson had boasted that she had not been put on the treadmill in consequence of the very improper intimacy which existed between her and one of the drivers. It is necessary that such conduct should be checked by the magistrates of the parish.

Mr. Brown admitted that he had heard of such reports, and Mr. Rawlinson said that the fact was quite notorious with regard to the witness, Maria Anderson, and another woman who is an apprentice on Bertram's Bowers; he was decidedly of opinion that Maria Anderson preferred being sent to the workhouse to any other punishment.

Sarah Higgins, an apprentice to Penshurst, sworn.

I have six children alive; three are free, and three are apprentices. Since the birth of my last child, which I have in my arms, I have been picking pimento; I am turned out with the rest of the people, and am obliged to do the same work as those who are in the great gang. No time is given me to attend to my picaninny. One day I was rather late at work; when I came to the place massa said, "Don't you see that the sun is up?" he then quarrelled a great deal. When shell blow in the evening, he put me in the dungeon, and kept me there till it was time to turn out to work next morning. I got nothing to eat or drink, nor would master allow me to go to my house to give any thing to my children; he would not even allow me to go and get a little water to drink. This was about two months ago; master did not send any thing for my children to eat, nor did he bring me up before Mr. Rawlinson.

William Dalling recalled, and sworn.

I know that Sarah Higgins is in the great gang; she was put into the dungeon, as she stated, because master said that she had turned out late; she has six children, but she does not get any indulgences. I received a general order from Mr. Rawlinson to put any body in the dungeon by my master's orders; but Mr. Rawlinson did not leave, to my knowledge, any orders that any person so put into the dungeon should be brought up to him afterwards, on his visiting the property.

Nanny Dalling, an apprentice on Penshurst, sworn.

My mistress called me one Friday, and said, "Go to Mr. Rawlinson, and he will tell you the law." When I went to him, he ordered me to the house of correction. As I knew that I had not done any thing to mistress, I turned my back, and she accuse me of being sulky and tying up my face; when I turned back, Mr. Rawlinson took me by the arms and shook me in such a way as to pop a button in front of my frock; he did not order any body, but took me with his own hands and put me into the dungeon. I had a sucking child, and master told him to give me the child, but he said that he would not; he went away and came back a few hours afterwards, and ordered me to be locked up for 14 nights in the same dungeon. I went one evening, and begged mistress not to lock me up again; I asked her to forgive me; she said, "No! that if she did that, Mr. Rawlinson would not punish me again." I slept in the dungeon 13 nights, and on the 14th night they let me out.

Jane

Jane Shaw Pennock, an apprentice on Penshurst, sworn.

The child in my arms is about five months old. Since its birth I have been picking pimento in the great gang. I am obliged to break the branches myself, and therefore leave my child with the field-nurse; I have carried home in the evening as much pimento as I ought to have done if I had a person to break the branches for me. When I got home one evening with my load, master said, "I saw you going up this morning to Knapdale side." I told him that it was not me, but he insisted that it was, and ordered me to go into the dungeon. This was about six o'clock; I was put into the dungeon and kept there until six o'clock next morning, without any thing whatever to eat; when I came out in the morning, I went to the negro house, and took up something to carry to the field for breakfast; when I got to the field, I found that massa had taken away Ellen Dalling, who used to mind the sucking children in the field; she was not removed because she was sick, but massa said that the children were born free, and he was not going to give them any nurse, as they were born free and did not deserve any mercy; after keeping her away two days he put her back to mind the children. I was never carried before the magistrate after being put into the dungeon, neither did I make any complaint to him. Master does not allow us to give our children suck in the field; when he comes into the field, if he finds any of us in the act of doing so he makes us get up.

William Dalling, recalled.

Says, that a young girl is put in the field now at Penshurst, to mind the sucking children.

Alexander Mills, an apprentice on Penshurst, sworn.

I was once a head constable on Penshurst, but was broken; I was made driver to-day, in consequence of another man having given up his situation. The women are allowed a little time to suckle their children, and a little girl is put into the field to mind them. When I was broken as head constable, Mr. Rawlinson did not break me; it was master did it; he took the staff from me himself. I remember the row which took place between James Williams and the rest about the half Friday; they were put into the dungeon; I don't remember the expression said to have been made by James Williams, as I was not by. The house of Peter Atkinson, which was pulled down, was his own house: it was his own house; it was his dwelling-house; he lived and slept there; his wife used to come from Knapdale sometimes to sleep there; there was a bed there besides the one which was in the little room, and it was there when the house was pulled down; we used to meet there for worship, on Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights; Atkinson and his wife always slept there on meeting-nights; if even his wife did not come down on meeting-nights, he slept there himself; no person ever met there except Atkinson was there himself. Prayers were always done between eight and nine o'clock, and always before master or mistress went to bed; we never made a noise loud enough to disturb them. When Atkinson went to take his meals, it was at that house he went to. It was only on meeting-nights that the benches were arranged for the meeting; the meeting never exceeded 18 or 20 persons; sometimes there were eight or nine strangers; we used to offer up a short prayer, and then sung a hymn. I remember when master ordered Thomas Brown to dig up the plantain suckers from Atkinson's garden; he also ordered Thomas Brown to dig up suckers out of several of our gardens; some were actually dug out of mine, and then planted in master's ground. I think that master's anger against Peter Atkinson was in consequence of his house being used for us to give a little prayer in. When they were pulling Atkinson's house down, Mr. Rawlinson, the special magistrate, was in the great house the whole time. The meetings used to be held in Atkinson's house before the 1st August 1834, and master knew very well, before Atkinson went away, that they were held there; master used to quarrel with us all about it. I remember when James Williams had a great many days to pay; he had no time then to attend to his ground, and was badly off; he scarcely had any thing to eat, and we were all obliged to assist him; I believe he had plenty of bread kind at the time he was accused of stealing yams. The dungeon at Penshurst is a very bad place, and is so damp that there is no dry place to lay down; the fowls sleep there when no body is confined, and it is always filthy with their dirt. When people are to be confined they must sweep it out themselves, or lay down in the filth.

Monday, 25 September 1837.

Janette Saunders, an apprentice on Orange Valley, sworn.

I remember being sent to the workhouse handcuffed to a very old man; we were taken out of the cage at Brown's Town. On our way down, I remember seeing a young man in the pasture at Penshurst, who gave me five oranges; he spoke to the police, and they allowed me to stop; he then took my bundle off my head, loosed it, and tied up the oranges in it; I did not know the young man; I have tried to find out his name, but I never could do so; he asked me if I knew the place where I was going to; I said, "No;" he then said, "You must keep a bold heart; you will find plenty more there alike yourself; I know what that workhouse is, for I have been there myself;" he then asked me, what I had done to be sent there, and I told him. When I got to the workhouse there were plenty of people there.

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there. I saw a woman with a sucking child, but I don't know where she came from; when she went out to work in the gang she tied the child to her back, and put it under a tree when she got into the field; if it rained, she was allowed to stand aside and shelter it with her penistone cloak. I don't remember seeing any pregnant women in the workhouse. We slept every night with the chains on our necks, and our feet in the shackles; the door was always locked at night, and by dawn of day the driver used to open it to let us out; I never saw nor heard the driver call any of the women to him for improper purposes. The first day I was on the mill I got a catting on my back, because I could not keep the step; my clothes were lashed off by the cat; I had on a body frock of Osnaburg; I was not catted very severely on the legs; the flogging was laid on by order of the police captain; I remember that one of my hands slipped out of the strap and I hung by the other, while the mill went round, and knocked against me; the police captain ordered the driver to pull the other hand down and let me fall, but the driver did not; he took my hand out and let me down; I never saw any of the other women catted on the wheel, for they kept their step good.

After coming down from the mill the first time, my stomach pained me so much that I could not even lay down at night; I was obliged to stand up the whole night with my feet in the shackles; I was on the mill eight days. Every time that I became very faint and could not keep the step, Mr. Drake ordered the mill to be stopped, and let me down. This witness then gave the same account as those who preceded her with respect to the work in which the prisoners of the workhouse were employed on Sundays, and the food received by each individual.

Mary James, a Guinea negro, apparently about 60 years of age, very weak and infirm, an apprentice to Mr. Wallace, of the Farm, sworn.

I remember being sent to the workhouse, and as I could not dance the mill, Mr. Drake flogged me himself; the boatswain also flogged me very badly, so badly that I could not contain my urine; he flogged me on the back till it bled, and when he saw it was so bad, he took me to the sea to wash it; they made me take off all my upper clothes so as to leave my back and shoulders quite bare; I danced the mill for six days, twice a day, and was catted every day.

When I was put on the mill it was impossible for me to keep the step, and I hung by the straps, and my shins used to be so badly bruised, that Mr. Drake would make me go to the sea-side to wash them.

I was put to dig cane-holes with the gang, and was chained to another woman.

James Bolt was the driver, who always flogged me; sometimes, when I hung on the mill and could not keep the step, I would call out, "Massa, me da go dead, oh! my stomach, oh!" When I cried, then Mr. Drake would take off.

Mr. Drake also, when he saw the frum-frum quite bad on the back, he gave me some oil to oil it.

The flies took my back, and when I got home, some of the negroes saw how it stood, and said, "Old woman, your back is fly-blown."

When in the workhouse I slept every night with the chain round my neck and my feet in shackles; they gave me so so negro yams to eat with no salt nor fish; I got enough to fill me; they never gave me any corn; no doctor ever looked at my back when I was in the workhouse; I got home at night after being let out, and the next day master packed me off the field, with my raw raw back; I slept in the path, one night, in my way home from the workhouse. I knew James Williams; he was in the workhouse at the same time with myself; when he saw how I was treated, he would say, "Grandy, keep heart, keep heart; poor thing! you no go dead in the workhouse; you will live go home." After I got home, I felt my skin quite weak; master did not take me into the hospital; I worked along with the piccaninny mothers and the weakly people. After I got home, turpentine was put to my back by Amelia Lawrence to take the maggots out, and she bathed my back with warm water. I continued working in the field until my back got quite well; I did not lay up on account of it; it was Captain A. Dillon who sentenced me to the workhouse and treadmill, because I went away about three months.

Mr. John Wallace, part proprietor and attorney of the Farm, sworn.

Mary James has been under my management upwards of 16 years; many times during that period she has been a runaway for months together; on the occasion to which she has referred, she was taken up and brought to the property; from her frequent absence of this kind, I thought it my duty to bring her before the special magistrate; a little before the termination of slavery she had been absent upwards of six months, and was tried at the quarter sessions, and sentenced by the court to three months in the workhouse, but before the expiration of half her sentence, I happened to be at the Bay and saw her; she complained of being sick, and, as I perceived that she was so, I told her that I would endeavour to obtain her release, if she would promise to behave better in future; she made the promise, and I then went to Mr. Drake, the supervisor, for the purpose of ascertaining whether he had the power to discharge her without the authority of the magistrates; he said that he had not; I then went to Mr. Cox, the custos, who happened to be on the Bay, and who was the presiding magistrate when she was convicted, to solicit his interference on her behalf; the custos said that he did not feel he had the power to order her discharge; but he advised the supervisor to let her go, and said he would take no notice of the irregularity.

larity. She was immediately let out, but ran away about two months afterwards; when she returned from the workhouse I did not observe any thing the matter with her back; he did not complain to me of being sick, nor did I know of her having a sore back till a long while afterwards; it was cured without my knowledge, as I never was made acquainted with the circumstance; she is working in the field, and has been put lately to cut grass; I work my people on the nine-hours system, and give them fish occasionally; I give them always the usual Christmas allowance.

Mr. John Clark, formerly an overseer on Knapdale estate, sworn.

I knew James Williams, and urged his valuation, considering that it ought to take place, as the legal notice had been given; instead of looking back and not speaking, I said, "Well, James Williams, I am very glad that you are a free man; I shall be saved a great deal of trouble, and I hope you will behave much better, as a free man, than you have done as an apprentice." I had frequently to carry him over to Mr. Senior during his apprenticeship to intercede for him when he got into any trouble, and many a time I saved him from deserved punishment; I had, however, frequent cause to complain of him, as the horses under his care often trespassed on the Knapdale canes by means of his neglect. I beg to observe, in reference to the valuation of James Williams, that Mr. Rawlinson offered no obstruction to it, but only suggested that as Mr. Senior was absent, attending a sister who was dangerously ill, that it should be postponed for a few days.

Tuesday, 26 September 1837.

James Finlayson, formerly an apprentice on Penshurst, but now free by purchase, sworn.

I knew Henry James, he was an old sawyer, and it was under him that I learnt the trade; we were going on very well until he got weak and could not manage the saw; I told master, Mr. Senior, that Henry James was too weak and said, "You had better let him go and watch, and put Henry Warren to the saw;" master said "Yes." We were sawing up at Hill-top, at a place called the New Ground; Henry James was put to watch a corn-piece, and a few days after he came to me and thanked me a great deal; he watched the corn-piece for a long time, and was very attentive. There was no fence at all round it, except some parts which had a few rails that were tied, and which were constantly breaking down; the cattle and hogs trespassed there a great deal at night, and master was told of it; master at one time sent Thomas Brown and Richard Lawrence to help mend the fences, but they left them half finished, as they were called away to another job; the stock still trespassed, and master brought Henry James before Dr. Thompson, the special magistrate; Henry James told the magistrate that he could not manage the ground, for it was very large and the stock broke in on every side, but the doctor ordered him to be catted, and when I came home, as he was a great friend of mine, I went to see him; he told me that he had been shamefully treated, but he did not mind the flogging so much as the pain he felt in his stomach from it; he did not go to watch that night, and laid flat on his belly on a piece of board. Next day he went to his watch; some weeks after, he came and told that every night as he went to his bed he coughed a great deal, and that whenever he coughed, blood came from him; I said, "You had better go to the hothouse and get something to check it." He went to the carpenter's shop, which was also used as a hothouse, and I saw him there every day; I asked him what they did for him; he said, "Nothing." He told me that Dr. Tucker had ordered a blister, but in place of that his mistress, Miss Senior, had sent him some candle-grease plaster, saying, "that he must put that on his stomach." I saw him again next day, and asked how he was last night; he answered, "Oh! brother, I will never get better again;" he then showed me a cup which held about a pint; it was half filled with blood, which he said he had brought up during the night. The next day I returned, and he showed me as much more; in the course of that day master went into the carpenter's shop, and said to him, "What! a'nt you dead yet?" Henry James told me that he wanted to go to Brown's Town to see Captain Andrew Dillon; he told me this the same day that I was to be valued; he set out before day, taking with him the blood which he had passed the night before. When he arrived at Brown's Town he complained to Captain Dillon; master was present, and said "that there was nothing the matter with him, and that he had all the doctor ordered; that Dr. Tucker was not here himself, but would be present at the next court;" the magistrate said, "Do you hear that, old man? go back and come again next week." Henry James replied, "Ah! massa, I don't know whether I am going to live to come back again." He went out, and a little while after some body ran back to tell us that he was dead, and that his body was laying by the Jack fruit-tree, near the corner of the church; I was very much alarmed and ran out to see; the place on which the body was lying was covered with a great deal of blood, which came from his nose and mouth; he was an African, and must have been upwards of 60 years of age.

I knew James Williams, he was not a thief to my knowledge; I do not know any thing about his having to pay a great number of days; I did not see the flogging that he got at Brown's Town, for I could not bear to go and see it; Mr. Gabbandon, at Brown's Town, saw it. I knew Peter William Atkinson's house, at Penshurst; it was his own house, his dwelling-house; he used to sleep in it; I helped him to raise it; we used to live together at one time. Atkinson used sometimes to have prayers in his house in the evening; there

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was no bed in the hall; there was a bed-room with a bed in it, but as the room was taken by wood-ants he moved out of that, and used to sleep in a small room which joined the house. When we met for prayer we were always over before master's bed-time; the girls from the house used to come up to prayer when master was at supper, and go down again to mind their business before the family went to bed; we never made any noise to disturb the family; sometimes about 20 persons used to be present at prayer; at others, not more than half of that number. One of the elder brethren used to commence with a little prayer; after that we sung a hymn, which was given out by one of the brethren; then we had another prayer and another hymn, and the meeting ended with a prayer; every body then went away to get their supper, and nobody remained to make a noise. These meetings worked great good in me; they taught me to be honest in my dealings, to speak truth at all times, and to do to others as I would wish them to do to me; they taught me also to be thankful for all things. I used at one time to take a great deal of my master's time without thinking that I was doing any harm, and I used to do many other bad things; religion told that all this was wrong. I never knew any of our people who would turn their backs on others because they did not belong to the same church as ourselves; that would not be a christian feeling. I am now working for myself, and getting a comfortable livelihood, and I am always ready to help a fellow-creature who is in want of assistance; since I purchased my freedom I lent Peter Atkinson 30*l.* 5*s.* to buy the balance of his apprenticeship, and I have also lent 12*l.* to Francis Johnson. I have a large family to support; there is my wife, myself, five of my wife's children before marriage, and five of my own which I got before marriage. Atkinson is now working for himself; he first worked with me to pay me off the sum I advanced for him, but he was so sickly that I was obliged to let him off; he will pay me when he can, and if he should not be able I don't mind the money. I paid 73*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* for my freedom; I have bought a little land since I was free, and I have a ground which I work, but still I am obliged to buy ground provisions, as I have so many mouths to feed; I have been free two years and a half. I think that the negroes are generally better off, as apprentices, than they used to be as slaves, for there is not the same interruption to the acquirement of gospel knowledge that there used to be, and they have better opportunities to get justice now than they had then.

George Gabbandon, an apprentice to Lincoln plantation, but living in Brown's Town by sanction of his owner, sworn.

I remember when James Williams and Adam Brown were flogged at Brown's Town; they both of them lay down and complained of their stomach; I saw them in that situation and pitied them, and gave them some camphor and water to relieve them; I did not see them faint, but they complained dreadfully of their stomach.

Wednesday, 27 September 1837.

Catherine Bayley, apparently about 15 or 16 years of age, an apprentice to Penshurst, sworn.

I remember Amelia Lawrence and myself being in the workhouse, about two years ago; I was in for seven days; the women were all locked up in one room at night, with chains on our necks; our feet were put in shackles. A man by the name of Jenkins came into the room one night and put improper questions to me, but I would not listen to him; he stopped some time endeavouring to persuade me to do wrong. Amelia Lawrence heard him and bawled out; she told the boatswain that she would not allow him to follow me that way, because my mother had begged her hard to keep me safe; it was the second night after I went in that Jenkins came to put these questions to me; I heard him put the same questions to a girl belonging to Mr. Moncrieff; it was the same night that he came to me; he asked her first, and as she would not consent, he then came to me. The treadmill did not hurt my legs, nor was I catted by the boatswain; Mr. Drake came into the field one day and licked me; other girls as young as myself were in the workhouse, but they were not put on the mill. I am worked about the house at Penshurst.

Thomas Bayley, an apprentice to Penshurst, sworn.

Catherine Bayley is my daughter, but I do not remember her age; I have heard of the affair between her and the boatswain at the workhouse, but not from herself, nor from her mother; I heard it from a strange person.

Mary Jane Kidson, an apprentice to Southfield, sworn.

The day I was sent to the workhouse I went from Lillyfield, but I belong to Southfield; both places belong to the same owner, and are quite close together; I was tried at Lillyfield, and went down the workhouse with James Williams, of Penshurst; we were handcuffed together; I had a young sucking child, which I carried, tied to my back; I had on my head a basket containing my baby's bed and clothes; when I was tired of carrying the child on my back I begged the police to stop and slack my hand out of the handcuff, so that I might carry it in my arms; they refused, but allowed me to stop, and I then loosed the child and rested it on my other arm, and carried it in that manner all the way till I got to the workhouse;

workhouse; I never gave it suck on the road; I asked the police, but they would not allow me. I was in the workhouse for 10 days and nights, and was put on the mill twice every day; as I could not keep step when I was first put on the mill, I was flogged by the boatswain round the waist; the mill cut my body badly the first day, and it bled a good deal; I was then sent to the sea to wash it; I was not flogged after the first day, as I learnt to keep the step good. I saw an old woman from the "Farm," who was flogged on her back till it bled; her back was quite bad; they took her into the yard and oiled it when it got quite bad, and before this they used to send her to the sea to wash it; she was not put on the mill again after her back got so bad as to require oiling. I never saw Mr. Drake himself flog the old woman; she was sent to the house of correction before me; she was put on the treadmill for three or four days after I went in, and then her back got so bad that they were obliged to oil it; one day the old woman could not dance the mill, and she hung by the wrists to the straps, and her legs knocked against the board of the wheel; she cried out to Mr. Drake that she could not keep the step, and she was taken off. We who had children carried them to the field, tied to our backs, and we were allowed to take it by turns to suckle them; whenever it rained we were allowed to go out of the rain to shelter them, and return to work after the rain was over; the women were locked up at nights in a separate room from the men, and we slept with the chains round our necks, and our feet in the shackles; no difference was made in this respect with regard to the women who had sucking children; we were all chained and shackled alike. The door of the room in which we slept was always opened by the driver early in the morning, who took us out to put us on the treadmill; I never saw any of the drivers come into the room at night, nor call the women to them for improper purposes. The other women used to carry water to Mr. Drake's house on Sundays and sweep out the yard, but they did not make me do it as my child was quite young and sucking; the chain was taken off my neck on the Sundays, and the collar left on; the men used on Sundays to carry wood for the workhouse, and grass to Mr. Drake's yard. On the morning after we got to the workhouse, James Williams was catted by the boatswain; I saw him catted myself; he was put on the treadmill immediately, and then sent out to work with the rest of the gang; I was in the workhouse two Sundays, but I did not see any person come to read prayers; there was no matron nor doctor woman in the workhouse, but there was a doctor man; I remember that the frock which the old woman from the "Farm" had on was quite cut up; her back was quite bare; she had no frock at all over the back; it was cut up into shreds. One day when I was in the field it was my turn to give my child suck, but the driver would not allow me to do so; I had not given it suck in the field for two days before; I complained about the hardship, and the driver carried me to the busha of the workhouse, who put my two feet in the stocks, and kept me there till the next day after buckra's breakfast-time; I was then sent to the field; I had nothing to eat all the time I was in the stocks.

When I went home the busha ordered me one Monday evening, after drawing off from work, to go to Lillyfield to be confined in the dark room, and he sent a young man to carry me there; I told the young man I could not go, for I was wet, and I could not take my child in the dark room with nothing but my wet clothes on; on Tuesday the busha sent for Mr. Rawlinson, and when he came I told him my case, and he committed me again to the treadmill for 10 days; my child could just creep.

In reply to a question from the court, witness said, I told my overseer yesterday that it was a bundle I carried on my head, but I now recollect that the bundle was in the basket, and I am quite sure that I had the basket on my head; the police who were carrying us down stopt at Laughland's a short time, and brought some grog; they gave James Williams a drink, and gave me a piece of bun, which I took with me to the workhouse.

Dr. Samuel Tucher sworn.

I attend professionally at Peshurst, and was in the habit of seeing Henry James; he complained of his stomach and spitting of blood; at one time he showed me a calabash with blood in it, which he said he had brought up; his disease was very formidable, his cough was very severe; I saw him a day or two before his death, but I have no recollection of seeing him previously to his punishment, nor do I know whether it was before or after his punishment that he commenced spitting blood. I am of opinion that his walk from Peshurst to Brown's Town was the immediate cause of his death, but did not see the body; the body was not opened; I should think that Henry James was about 60 years of age.

Thursday, 28 September 1837.

Mr. Joseph Isaacs, merchant at Brown's Town, sworn.

I was called upon to give evidence in the valuation of James Williams; I was asked by the magistrates to give evidence; I said that I very much wanted a boy like him, and that I would give him two dollars per week if he would come to me; I am actually now paying that sum for a man-servant, and a like sum for a woman-servant; I cannot get a negro with a good character for a less amount; I did not hire James Williams when he applied to me after being valued, as I heard that he was a bad character, and was always carrying his master before the magistrates; I also heard that he was a thief, and as I had silver plate about my house, I told him that I did not want him; I told him that the servant I then had had brought me a character before I would hire him. When James Williams

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came to me, I told him that I did not want him, but I did not give him any reason; I was in the habit of attending the special magistrates' courts, and I saw Williams brought up on various complaints, by Mr. Senior; I have not seen him flogged here more than once to my knowledge; I do not remember his being sent to the treadmill. I know that before the Abolition Act Mr. Senior's people were in a state of mere nominal restraint, and I was of opinion that, after the passing of the Act, Mr. Senior might have pushed them, and by that means they were frequently brought here and complained against; I therefore thought that Williams might not have been altogether a bad boy; I don't think that it was more than three or four days after his valuation that James Williams came to me and offered his services; my opinion of him was altered about two or three hours after his valuation. Somebody said "Are you going to hire that boy?" I said "Yes;" I was then advised not to hire him, as he was a thief. When I offered him two dollars per week, I told him that I would give him occasionally a suit of clothes, a hat, and a couple pairs of shoes every year, and more too if he required it; and, besides that, I would give him any little thing from the table; that the other servant whom I had was getting that, and he should get the same; I always looked upon him as a fine intelligent boy, and never had any doubt of his character until after receiving the information I did after his valuation. I think that the person who gave me this information had a better knowledge of his character than I could possibly have; I was very much in want of a servant at the time, and was considerably put to; if I had thought Williams of a bad character I should not have put any value whatever upon him. When I gave evidence as to his valuation I was under the impression that he was a very honest and good boy; it was only after the information which I received that I was induced to change my opinion of him.

Friday, 29 September 1837.

Margaret Jane Campbell, a Sambo non-prædial apprentice to Miss Ford, of Rio Bueno, about 18 years of age, sworn.

I was once hired to Mr. Chrystie, the saddler, at Saint Ann's Bay; I remember being sent to the house of correction; I knew a young man there named James Williams, but I don't know where he belonged to; I was in for ten days, and danced the mill twice a day; I could not keep the step at first, and they flogged me on my feet the first day very severely. (The witness here showed her shins, on which were marks of what must have been two dreadful sores.) My shins were very badly bruised by the mill; after I came off the mill my stomach hurt me a great deal, and it continued to hurt me for a long time afterwards; my stomach never pained me before I was sent to the treadmill. Mr. Drake often came to the workhouse when we were on the mill, and quarrelled with the boatswain for not making it go fast; he told him to flog the people when they would not dance quick; I was sent to the workhouse because Mr. Chrystie sent me to buy a bottle of castor oil; I bought the oil, and the bottle broke as I was going home; I went home and told him of the accident, but I did not carry the broken bottle to show him; Mr. Chrystie told me that I must go and bring the oil or the money, and I then ran away for four days. When I returned home I was brought before the magistrate, who sentenced me to the treadmill for ten days; there were some women there from Draxhall; one of them was pregnant; she was not put on the mill; I never saw any pregnant women from Draxhall on the mill; I went out of the workhouse before James Williams. I knew a girl named Mary Murray, in the workhouse; she belongs to Serville. I saw a woman named Elizabeth Mason on the treadmill, she came from Mount Carmel; she never could keep step on the treadmill at all, and always hung by her hands; she used to scream, and make a great noise when she hung on the mill; she was flogged on the feet to make her get the step, but she still hung, and the mill going round bruised her shins quite bad; every day she was put on, and received the same flogging and treatment; she had a young child with her. I don't remember the name of the boatswain who flogged me; my legs were hurt very badly the day I was first put on, and got worse and worse by being put constantly on the mill at working hours. No white doctor ever saw me, neither was I seen by any doctor man or doctor woman; no person ever told me what to do with my legs, nor was any thing done to them till I went home; I was not even allowed to go to the sea-side to wash them. I knew Major Light, he was the special magistrate who tried me, I used to see him very often; I heard that he was not a sober man, but I never saw him drunk, nor did I ever see him at the workhouse. Mr. Chrystie came to the workhouse about a week after I was in; he said that he came to see me put on the mill; I showed him my legs, and he said that he had nothing to do with it; that they must put me on the mill; that he came on purpose to see me worked on it, and hoped that my feet may be so cut up as to make me wish never to go on it again; he and the boatswain and Mr. Jenkins then had a long talk together; he stopped the whole time that the mill was working; while he was there a woman from Draxhall hung on by the straps the whole time; she had her legs dreadfully cut up; she screamed a great deal, and cried for her stomach; nobody was flogged on the mill the day Mr. Chrystie was there.

I never saw Mr. Hylton, the clerk of the peace, come to the workhouse while I was there, but I have heard people say that he used to do so, and that he always kept them on very long; it was the common talk, but I can't remember who it was that told me; I am certain that there was not any matron or doctor woman at the workhouse; I don't know if there were any at the jail. Several of the townspeople used to come in the evening to see the mill going; they used to stop outside and see the mill at work; the door of the millhouse

was

was kept open; the persons who used to come were principally negroes; I never saw any of the gentlemen of the town, or any of the magistrates belonging to the parish come to the workhouse; I never saw any of the drivers wishing to take improper liberties with the women, nor did I ever hear any of them say so; James Williams used to call after me, and tell me to keep the step good, that I must not put my feet too far in on the treads, but just on the edge; he always worked next to me on the mill; when I came off the first day he showed me himself how I was to put my feet on, so that they might not get cut. I did not know James Williams before I saw him that time in the workhouse; I never saw any parson come to the workhouse while I was there, but I was told that some time ago parson Johnson used to attend there. I am now at home with my mistress, and go either to church or chapel every Sunday.

Eliza Nathan, an apprentice to Mount Carmel, sworn.

I remember being sent to St. Ann's Bay workhouse, there were plenty of persons in at the time; there were two men there from Penshurst; I was in the workhouse for ten days; I was pregnant at the time with the child I now have in my arms; I was three months in the family way, but I did not tell either the magistrate or the busha. A woman by the name of Eliza Watson was in the workhouse with me, she belonged to Mount Carmel also, she had a pickaninny with her. I did not know James Williams. I was put on the treadmill twice a day. Before I was taken to Mr. Rawlinson, at Brown's Town, for trial, I was put into a dungeon, and confined there for five nights; when I was going to Brown's Town I was taken out of the dungeon, and was not even allowed to go to my hut to get a suit of clean clothes to bring with me; I came down here quite dirty, and my sister, who was in the market, went aside, and took off her own clean shift, which she gave to me to put on. I was taken to the workhouse by the police, four of us went at the same time in charge of three policemen; we reached St. Ann's Bay workhouse about six o'clock in the evening, this was on a Saturday; on Monday morning they put me on the treadmill; I kept the step very well when I was first put on, but when the mill turned hard I felt very faintish, and my knees got very weak, but still I kept on; we were sent to work in the field after being put upon the treadmill in the morning, and when we returned in the evening we were put on again. The edge of the steps of the mill always cut my shins; whenever I got tired on the mill, and cried out, Mr. Jenkins used to flog me with the whip, but he did not hurt me a great deal; I was quite sick in the workhouse in consequence of being in the family way, and was put in the hothouse for three days; Mr. Drake and Mr. Jenkins ordered physic for me. A doctor came to see me, and the doctor-man gave me physic; the doctor came to the workhouse two days while I was there, and saw me. There was no female in the workhouse to attend to the women; I was not sick when I came out of the workhouse; I went to my work, and kept at it until the week before Christmas; I was then near my time, and I went to the busha to ask for a month to sit down, but he refused to give it to me; my child was born on the new-year's day; I stated what I wanted to do; I wanted to pick oil nuts to make oil for burning after my delivery; the busha then ordered me to be locked up in a dungeon, and sent for the magistrate; when the magistrate, Mr. Rawlinson came, he boxed me all about my jaws and head, and put me again in the dungeon; he boxed me with a paper book which he had in his hand. When Mr. Rawlinson and the busha go into the house together, if the apprentice has ever so much right, he is not allowed to speak. On my return from the workhouse, the time I was there, I was made to pay back ten days to estate. The day the magistrate boxed me was about a week before Christmas; I was put by the busha into the dungeon on Saturday morning, and was taken out on a Monday.

Note.—By the magistrates' return, it appeared that the above-mentioned witness was committed to the house of correction on 23d April 1836.

Monday, 2 October 1837.

Peter William Atkinson recalled; sworn.

When James Williams and Adam Brown were put in the dungeon at Knapdale, they were put in one of the bottom dungeons at the works; they were put in separate dungeons, and the bottoms of the dungeons were very swampy; Mr. Patterson kept the keys of the dungeons, and came to open the doors in the morning; I was the person who carried the food the whole ten days that they were in the dungeon.

Mr. William Codnor, proprietor of Newhope Pen, sworn.

Maria Henderson was sent to the house of correction the latter end of March 1835, and a woman named Peggy was sent there also on the 28th May 1835. From the 4th of October 1834 to the 7th May 1835, she absented at four different periods about 196 days; Maria Henderson went to St. Ann's Bay to see a man in the workhouse, whom she had formed a connexion with, and on her return reported to the people on the property the death of Peggy in the workhouse; I never inquired into the circumstances of the death; if I had been told that one of my horses had died, I should certainly have inquired as to how it came to its death; Peggy was sentenced to the workhouse by Mr. Rawlinson; she was

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sent there on the 27th May 1835, to remain there for one month, and be put on the treadmill five minutes each day; no communication whatever was made to me from the workhouse of the death of the woman; nor have I, to this day, learnt any thing connected with her death but from loose reports; she was in the habit of eating firecoal, but broke herself off the habit about two or three years before she was sent to the house of correction.

Maria Henderson or Anderson recalled; sworn.

When I was at St. Ann's Bay workhouse, a woman living on the bay used to behave very kind to me; after being at home about three months, I went to the bay and paid her a visit; I also went to the workhouse to tell Peggy how d'ye; when I got there, the driver and boatswain told me that she was dead; Martin Brown told me that the first day she was put on the mill, the blood gushed out of her nose and mouth; that they stopped the mill and took her off, and she was never put on again from that time until the day of her death, which he said was two days before the day I went to inquire after her; he did not say that she could not keep the step and hung on the mill, but that she was not able from the first to work on the mill; she was a sickly woman, and troubled with pains in the stomach before she was sent to the house of correction.

Edward Gabbidon, constable on New Hope, sworn.

I remember Maria Anderson's coming from the workhouse, as well as Peggy's going there; Maria went some time after to St. Ann's Bay, and came back with the news of Peggy's death: I did not hear the cause of her death stated, nor did I make any inquiry; she was a young woman, and I am told that she used to eat dirt, which made her very sickly; I can't say whether she complained of her stomach before being sent to the workhouse; she was always fed from the house, and master therefore claimed a part of her own time; she had no grounds, and had nothing to do but sweep the yard on Saturdays, and feed the hogs.

Maria Henderson or Anderson recalled.

I remember that some apprentices were passing by, one Friday, from Hylton Hill; they had the half Friday, and stopped where we were working; we said to ourselves, "Every body's negroes have the half Friday except us." Master heard it, and said, "Shut your mouths, women; I have my eyes upon two or three of you." When he said that, the apprentices would not be silent, but kept on talking; master then desired the head constable, Richard Johnson, to take myself and Clemence Brodie and put us into the dungeon; just as we were going, another gentleman came up and told master that the head constable was laughing and upholding us; master then sent for the head constable, and put him in the bilboes; the second constable, Cupid Williams, then took charge of us and carried us to the dungeon, where we were locked up; this was on Friday; we were let out next morning after breakfast; on the Thursday following, Mr. Rawlinson came up, and we were brought before him; he ordered me to fourteen days' hard labour in the house of correction, and Clemence Brodie, who had a young child, about three months old, he ordered to be locked up for ten nights in the dungeon; he ordered Richard Johnson to be called and broken from being a head constable.

Mr. Codnor said, "I have been working on the nine-hours system, but in consequence of the general bad conduct of my people, by way of punishment, I adopted the eight-hours system. On Friday, the 27th March 1835, I rode out to where the people were working on the road, and while there, about eleven o'clock, the Mount Edgecomb negroes passed by; the Newhope men had just taken up a turn of stones, and the women were in the act of doing so, but when they saw the Mount Edgecomb people passing, they called out, "Massa negroes, you have the half Friday; it is we who are killed; it is we who are punished; we don't get half Friday;" they then broke out in a very noisy and violent manner; Maria Henderson and Clemence Brodie were the most conspicuous; I threatened to make the constable lock them up unless they ceased, and told them that I would send for Mr. Rawlinson; they then became more clamorous; I ordered Cupid Williams, the constable, to take Maria Henderson and Clemence Brodie while they were making a noise; Mr. William Fairweather and Mr. Walcott rode up to where I was, and Mr. Walcott said, "What the devil is the matter here; you seem to have your people in a state of rebellion." I then mentioned the cause, and Mr. Walcott observed, "Your men are worse than the women, or equally bad;" Richard Johnson was one of the most conspicuous among the men, instead of endeavouring, as he ought to have done, to make peace; I should have ordered him to be locked up had he not been in charge of the gang; I, however, had him locked up at shell-blow, and sent for Mr. Rawlinson, who was not to be found; I let them all out at eight o'clock next morning; when Mr. Rawlinson visited the property, they were tried and sentenced by him, as stated by Maria Henderson; Richard Johnson was sentenced to be flogged at Brown's Town, and his sentence was carried into execution by the police, I believe.

George Shuttleworth, a constable on New Hope, sworn.

I carried Peggy to the house of correction; she was neither hearty nor strong; we set away about day-light, and we got to St. Ann's in the evening about sun-down; if she had been hearty and strong we would have got down about 12 o'clock mid-day; she was a very weakly, disabled woman, and had a big swelled foot; she complained all the way about a
pain

pain in the stomach, and could scarcely walk; when she got into the boatswain's yard, she was so sick that the boatswain said they could not keep her in; they told me to take her to Mr. Drake; I did so, and he desired me to go back with her to the house of correction, and desire one of the boatswains to lock her up in a room by herself; I then carried her, gave her in charge and went away. When I got home in the morning, master asked if I saw how she danced on the treadmill; I told him that I did not see, as it was late when I got down. I never heard any thing again of Peggy until Maria Henderson came up with the report of her death.

Thomas Tulloch, an apprentice on Retreat Pen, sworn.

Peggy came to the workhouse a few days after I was in; she was a weakly woman and had a swelled leg; all her face and skin were puffed; I did not see her on the treadmill, nor did I ever talk to her; after I went away from the workhouse, I remember hearing of her death, but I can't recollect who it was that told me of it; I was in the workhouse myself for two weeks.

Eliza Watson, an apprentice to Mount Carmel (called Eliza Mason, of Mount Campbell, in James Williams's narrative), sworn.

I remember being sent to the workhouse at St. Ann's; I was put on the treadmill; while on the mill my shins were much cut up, and when I missed the step, Mr. Drake and Mr. Jenkins flogged me on my back; they flogged me very hard, and when I got home I was very sick from it; when I was on the mill I could not keep step, and I hung by my hands, and the mill went round quite quick and knocked against my shins and cut them; I kept on hanging all the time till it was time to stop the mill, and it was only then that I was taken down; I was flogged on my legs as well as my back; I knew James Williams, he and I were in the workhouse together; I was put in for 10 days, and was put on the mill once every day, in the morning; Mr. Rawlinson sentenced me to be put on twice a day, but I was only worked once a day, as I had a young sucking child in my arms; this was just before Christmas 1836; Eliza Nathan, from Mount Carmel, was in the workhouse before me; she was pregnant when she went in, quite young with child, and had her shins cut up also.

Maria Greaves and *Mary Brown*, apprentices to Hyde Park estate, were sworn, and said,

That they were some time ago in the St. Ann's house of correction and were sent to work in the field with the penal gang; that James Thomas, the driver, often made proposals to them of an improper nature; that he put them on one side by themselves to work, and then he would come and endeavour to persuade them to consent to his wishes; on the last day that they had to remain in, they were put aside to work by themselves, and as they knew why they were placed by themselves, they looked very sulky; James Thomson came up to them and repeated his requests to Mary Brown, but as she looked very cross at him and refused to listen to him, he ordered both of them to go and work with the rest of the gang. Maria Greaves and Mary Brown said that they were both chained together.

Tuesday, 3 October 1837.

Julian Morison, an apprentice to Dornock, sworn.

I was sent some time ago to the workhouse and was put on the treadmill; the field-driver persuaded me to consent to his wishes, and I did so three times; I used on these occasions to go to his room, and remained with him during the whole of the night; his name is Thomas Aikin; in consequence of my consenting to his wishes he made a difference of my work in the field. This witness, on being asked why she consented to the desires of the driver, said, "I was afraid if I did not go, that he would punish me." She subsequently said that she was placed on the mill twice a day, and that her shins were bruised only the first day.

The Examination of the Rev. *John Clarke*, Baptist Missionary, taken at Brown's Town, in the parish of St. Ann's.

Wednesday, 5 October 1837.

Question by the Court.] A reference having been made to meetings for prayer, held by negroes on some properties in this neighbourhood, be good enough to inform us what you know of such meetings; and how they are conducted?—*Answer.* On many of the properties where there are individuals attending the chapel of which I am the minister, a class is formed consisting of those who lead a moral life, and are desirous of obtaining religious instruction. To each of these persons a ticket is given, and their names are entered in a book kept for the purpose. A person is selected or recognized by me to conduct the meetings of the class, and from time to time to report on the conduct of those composing it. If any are found to have been guilty of immorality or improper conduct, their names are erased from the book, and they are requested to return their tickets. On some properties the classes meet once a

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week, on others two or threetimes, in the largest or most convenient of the cottages which can be procured for the purpose. The strictest injunctions are given that such meetings be conducted in a quiet, orderly manner; that they be broken up at an early hour; that especial care be taken to avoid disturbing the inmates of the great house; and these directions, I believe, are carefully attended to. The meetings are solely for religious purposes; two or three hymns are sung; the Scriptures are read; prayer is offered; and inquiries made to the christian consistency of the members of the class. The friends and neighbours of those belonging to the class are permitted to attend the meetings, or indeed any one who may have the desire.

Q. What number of persons generally compose your congregation?—*A.* My general congregation consists of nearly 1,000 persons; there are 300 or 400 besides, who cannot obtain admission inside the chapel, and are obliged to remain partly in the school and partly on the steps and about the premises. There are about 300 children who attend the sabbath school, and about the same number of adults. About 400 or 500 Testaments have been distributed since the commencement of 1835, to those who are capable of reading them.

Q. What is the general appearance of your congregation?—*A.* The greater part are well dressed, and their general appearance is that of health and comfort.

Q. What appears to you to be the general means of which they are possessed?—*A.* I have every reason to believe that, with some exception, they are industrious, and that, when the seasons are favourable, their grounds are so productive as to enable them to be comfortable themselves, generous and attentive to those who are in distress and in sickness, and liberal in their subscriptions towards assisting the payment of the debt incurred in the erection of this chapel. Since the opening of the chapel in May 1836, upwards of 1,000 *l.* have been subscribed by the apprentices.

The Rev. John Clarke said, in reference to James Williams,—Mr. Sturge saw James Williams here; he had some conversation with him, and requested that I would purchase his freedom for him; he came here in consequence of a message having been sent to Penshurst by James Finlayson, at my request, informing the people that two gentlemen were here who were desirous of knowing how the apprentices were treated. Mr. Sturge, after hearing his statement, requested me to purchase the remaining term of his apprenticeship; I asked him the several questions stated by him in the narrative, and he promised, on my advancing the money, to work hard and try to pay me back. Mr. Rawlinson made some hesitation to value, in consequence of the absence of the master, Mr. Senior, but on my representing to Mr. Rawlinson that it was a matter of great importance that the boy should be valued that day, and, indeed, could admit of no delay, the valuation was proceeded with, and, after the payment of the money, I told him that he must go to Spanish Town or Kingston to Mr. Sturge, as he wished to take him to England, and would take good care of him. I previously inquired whether he would like to go to England, and he immediately assented, and expressed a great deal of pleasure at the idea of going.

Abraham Isaacs, Esq., Justice of the Peace for the parish of St. Ann's, sworn.

I was one of the justices who valued James Williams, and I am certain that James Williams would not have been valued at so high a rate but for the evidence of Mr. Joseph Isaacs; my usual mode of valuing domestics of that description was 10 *s.* per week, deducting therefrom one-third for casualties and contingencies, leaving the net sum of 6 *s.* 8 *d.*

Note.—Before the commissioners left the neighbourhood of Brown's Town, they made it their duty to ride over to Knapdale to inspect the dungeons on that property; the cells in which James Williams and Adam Brown were confined were found to be exactly six feet square, and in height about 12 feet. Although not now observed to be damp, yet, having been but just completed at the time of James Williams and Adam Brown's incarceration, and being from their situation totally excluded from the influence of the sun, it is impossible that, with the strong masonry with which they are built, they could have been otherwise than damp. In each of these cells is one narrow and indirect opening for the admission of air; there is consequently no ventilation whatever. When, in connexion with this fact, it is also remarked that nature's relief was allowed to accumulate during nearly if not the whole period of 10 days and nights, it may be almost a matter of surprise that human life was sustained for that long period under such revolting circumstances. The commissioners inspected also the dungeon at Penshurst, which they found about seven feet square and not deficient in ventilation; it is, however, so low that a person of ordinary size must be denied in it even the slight but natural alleviation of an erect posture.

St. Ann's Bay, Thursday, 5 October 1837.

George Gordon, Esq., General Magistrate, and John Daughtrey, Esq., Special Magistrate, removed their Court to this place, where the investigation was continued.

The commission and other documents having been published as before, the commissioners repaired to the house of correction, and made a minute observation of the state of that institution, the result of which will be detailed at length in the report of the proceedings of the commissioners in this town. The commissioners were put in possession of the books

books and papers relative to the discipline of the house of correction, and were subsequently afforded every opportunity, at the office of the clerk of the peace, to obtain whatever information they required. His honour the custos was apprized, during the day, of the arrival of the commissioners for the purpose of prosecuting their inquiries. Various persons were summoned to attend the court on the following day, and a requisition was sent to the officer in charge of the police station at Wakefield for a corporal and three privates to act as messengers.

Friday, 6 October 1837.

James Brown, head constable on Draxhall, sworn.

I knew Elizabeth Bartley; she was carried before Mr. Sowley to be tried for not doing her work so as to keep up with the gang in the field, and for turning out late; when she was tried, I told the overseer and the magistrate that she was with child; they made no answer, and the magistrate sentenced her to dance the treadmill four days; when she returned her legs were not cut, nor did she say to me that she had been catted while on the wheel; she looked sickly on her return, as she had been put on the wheel in a state of pregnancy; many of the people who were sent from Draxhall to the treadmill were severely cut upon the shins, several of them were cut like Lavinia Reynolds, who is brought down this day for the purpose of showing her wounds; it was Major Light who sent her to the workhouse; she went in about March, and her foot has never been well since; the men who were sent to the workhouse returned home with backs much cut up from the whip; some of them would go to their work on their return, and some would be obliged to go to the hothouse; but those who went to their work could never keep up their row, as they used to complain much about their shoulders being cramped; I have often seen Major Light trying people at Draxhall, he could scarcely ever write the paper to send the people to the workhouse.

Question. Did you ever see Major Light in a state of intoxication?—*Answer.* He was scarcely ever sober.

Q. What magistrate succeeded Major Light, and how do the people behave under him?—*A.* The people behave much better now, because there is not so much punishment as in Major Light's time; they have confidence in Captain Reynolds, who always gives them a fair trial and good advice; the people are worked on the eight hour system; as I have not a watch, I cannot say whether we have been worked more than the eight hours; but, during the last week, we have been drawn off rather earlier than usual; we do not get herrings regularly, sometimes we are two months without them; we know that we can't claim them now as a right, and therefore we don't think hard when we don't get them; I was present on two occasions when Major Light tried the people; one of those occasions was after dinner, and he was so tipsy that he was obliged to hold his head over the paper; he then asked busha what to do, and busha told him what to write; two of the book-keepers were present; one day Major Light was so drunk that he fell off the step; one reason why the people are more satisfied now is, that Captain Reynolds does not visit the busha's house.

Mr. James Larchin Miller, book-keeper on Draxhall, sworn.

I am a book-keeper at Draxhall, and attend the people in the field; we work on the eight hour system; the list is called at 20 minutes to seven o'clock; some of the people turn out regularly, but others do not come into the field till a quarter of an hour after the time; they are given an hour for breakfast, and generally take a quarter of an hour more; they have field-cooks; they are given two hours for dinner, and they take a half hour more; until within the last week they have been drawn off at about a quarter of six in the evening; for the last week they have been drawn off at a quarter after five, by which time those who have turned out early have completed their eight hours, and those who turned out late and lost time have been noted, to be brought up before the special magistrate.—In reply to a question from the court, Mr. Miller said, that, previous to this last arrangement, those who turned out early were drawn off as soon as they had completed their eight hours, and those who turned out late were kept in the field until they completed their time, but on such occasions they did but little or no work; the most distant cane-piece is about a mile and a half from the farthest corner of the negro-houses.—This witness, in continuation, said, Mary Ann Shaw and Eleanor Howell were in the workhouse before I went to the property; I have therefore no knowledge of the state in which they returned, nor of the fact that they were so lame as to be put into a truck by Mr. Drake to be sent home; there is not so much punishment now as in Major Light's time; he was always a little in liquor, but never so much as not to be able to do his duty and write his name; I never saw him what may be called sober, he was generally betwixt and between; when holding his court, he always gave as patient and as full a hearing to the apprentice as to the employer; the Draxhall negroes have never been worked on the nine hour system since I have been there, and I believe that the eight hour system is common among the estates in this neighbourhood.

Samuel Pink, head carpenter, and a constable to Draxhall estate, sworn.

I remember Elizabeth Bartley being tried by Mr. Sowley; I was present, and heard James Brown tell the magistrate and overseer that she was with child; she was tried for turning out late and not keeping up with the gang, she could not do so because she was

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pregnant; those women who returned from the workhouse with their knees cut up from the treadmill generally went into the hospital for four or five weeks; when Mary Ann Shaw and Eleanor Howell returned from the workhouse, they told me that as they could not walk they were put into a cart belonging to Roaring River by Mr. Drake, and were taken out at Draxhall gate, where the road turns into the works; they were put into the hothouse, and I went in and saw their legs terribly cut up, they were quite bad; they were upwards of a month in the hothouse before they were well enough to come out; another woman, named Lavinia Reynolds, got very much damaged on the shins; she has been in the hothouse for five months since her return from the workhouse, and is still there; she was tried for quitting the hothouse frequently; she was in at that time with a sore toe; her shin is very bad now, and at one time the wound was so bad on it that I saw the bone, the whole of the skin was in one sore, and I began to think that it would have been necessary to cut the leg off; Dr. Bailey is the doctor for the property, but I can't say if he ever did any thing for Lavinia Reynolds; Major Light was the special magistrate who sent Lavinia Reynolds to the house of correction; he was a man who was scarcely ever sober; he drank too much spirits, and used to commence very early in the morning; I have seen him at his business between nine and ten o'clock in the morning quite tipsy; I have seen him so bad that way that he could not sit down in his own chaise; I have seen him at Draxhall going away, after he had done his duty, so tipsy that his servant was obliged to hold him in his chaise; he never allowed the apprentices to have much to say for themselves before he committed them; at the offset, when the new law first set in, the people were very ignorant and unruly, but within this year they have begun to behave a little better; this has been since the new magistrate, Captain Reynolds, came; he gives them much satisfaction; Mr. Sowley was the magistrate before Major Light; he used to flog the people very hard.

Solomon Cohen, proprietor of Coolshade, sworn.

I knew Major Light, and am aware that he used to be frequently intoxicated; he has come to Coolshade, in his capacity as a magistrate, in such a state that, even if I had had complaints, I would not have brought the people before him, as I did not consider him in a fit state to try them.

Lavinia Reynolds, an apprentice to Draxhall, after exhibiting her leg with a very bad sore, was sworn.

I was in the hothouse with a sore toe; one Wednesday morning the doctor-man ordered me out to sweep the yard; I told him my breakfast was on the fire, and he ordered me directly into the dark room; he complained of me to the busha, who sent off for Major Light; he came in the afternoon, and I was brought up and tried, and on the evidence of the doctor-man, Jones M'Farlane, was convicted and sentenced to the house of correction; I was carried down on the Wednesday night and put on the treadmill the next morning; when I went in the evening I was locked up in a dark room, the room was very dark; when I was put on the treadmill my toe was still bad, and, as I knocked my shins against the mill, Mr. Drake took a cat with his own hands and flogged me on the feet; on Tuesday evening I was taken ill with fever, and I told Mr. Drake the next morning that I had fever, but he did not take any notice of me, and still put me on the mill; they never flogged me after the first time; every time I went on the mill I knocked my shins; the day that Mr. Drake licked me with the cat he licked me on the bruises, and that made the shins so bad; when he put me on the mill he took a handkerchief off my head and tied my clothes up above my knees; I was kept the whole of the first week on the mill, as Mr. Drake would not believe that I was sick; Dr. Bailey did not see me at the workhouse, nor any other doctor while I was there; the second week I was very sick; on the Monday of the second week I spoke to Mr. Drake, and told him that I was sick, I couldn't help myself; he said he did not care, and that I should go on the mill; he did not care whether I broke my shins or not; he put me on the mill on that Monday, and I was so weak that I couldn't keep step, but hung on it; it was going very fast, and bruised the shin so much as to make it bleed; the next morning Mr. Drake said he would not bother with me again, and locked me up in the dark room; I was kept in that dark room the whole of the two weeks that I was in the workhouse, except when they took me out to put me on the treadmill; I used to be let out a little in day-time to wash the sore; the morning that Mr. Drake was flogging me on the mill, he flogged all the other people who could not keep step, and tied all the other women's clothes the same way as mine; to the boatswain and others standing below, our persons must have been indecently exposed; from the time I have been out, I have been in the hothouse till now (near five months); Dr. Bailey, the doctor of Draxhall, has seen the foot, but never told me what to do with it; I don't know whether he gave any directions to the doctor-man; I have been washing the foot and putting leaves on it.

Mr. Richard Watts, overseer on Seville estate, sworn.

I remember Mary Murray being sent to the workhouse, about the 20th December last; I do not remember any particular circumstance happening at the trial, which took place before Major Light; one of the constables might have been present; she was tried for running away; I am not sure, but I believe I wrote the committal, and read it to Major Light, who signed it; I wrote the committal at his request, as he was a nervous man, and read it over to him; he appeared as if he had been exceeding the day before; he had not taken
any

any thing to drink that morning on the estate; Mary Murray was the only woman on the property who had been sent to the workhouse for punishment; the people on the property behave very well, and have done so since I have been on the property; they get fish regularly; I have been on the property about two years; we work on the eight hours system.

Mary Ann Shaw, an apprentice to Draxhall estate, sworn.

I remember being sent to the house of correction; I was sent on a charge of quitting spell; I was put on the treadmill twice a day, and when I could not keep the step, Mr. Drake made Thomas White, the boatswain, cut me on the legs; I was very badly cut up; on the fifth day I was very bad, and I hung on the mill, but they would not take us down until the time was over; I had fever on me three days, and I told Mr. Drake, but he said, "They have sent you down to dance the treadmill, and you must dance it." Every day when we were on the mill they flogged us, and made us tie our clothes up so high that our persons were very indecently exposed; when the time came for us to go out we could not walk; I thought I should have died, as I was so very bad; I could not stand up at all, both my legs were swelled all the way up to the hip, and if it had not been for the attention of a doctor-woman, named Eliza Beckford, on Draxhall, both Catherine James and myself must have died; when our time was up, Mr. Drake told us that he sent to let the busha know that he must send a cart for us, as we could not walk, and that busha said he would not send the cart for us, as he did not care whether we died or not. One day the Roaring River wain came down with bread kind for the people, and Mr. Drake got the cartman to put us on it, and carry us home; the cartman dropped us at Draxhall-gate, and we lay down there, until the Draxhall cart passing by, on its return from carrying sugar to the bay, we were taken up and carried to the hospital; Dr. Nicholl came to the hothouse, and told us what to do with the legs; after being in the hothouse about two weeks, and got a little better, busha turned us out to work; when in the workhouse, and on the mill, I never saw any white gentlemen come there except Mr. Sowley, the special magistrate, who examined Catherine James and myself, and saw how we were mashed up; Mr. Drake it was who sent for him to show him our legs, and the state they were in, and when he saw them he said that we deserved more than that; I was never brought up before Major Light, nor punished since then.

Eleanor Howell, an apprentice to Draxhall estate, sworn.

I remember being sent to the workhouse and put on the treadmill; I was well mashed up; that is, my shins were mashed up; when the legs were mashed by the mill, and I could not keep the step, particularly as I was troubled with a shortness of breath, Mr. Drake ordered the man who acted as boatswain to flog me with a cat; I was cut up on my back and my feet; I was put on the treadmill twice every day for three days; every God's send day that I was put on the mill, it bruised my knees, and as I hung on it, from inability to keep the step, it cut my shins dreadfully; when I called out for "mercy," Mr. Drake said, "No mercy is here: you should have looked for mercy at Draxhall before you came here." When I came off the mill, they locked me up in a dark room with two other women, and kept us there until we were taken out to dance the treadmill again; when the three days expired, I was sent out of the workhouse, but I could not stand; busha sent a man down for me, he was my brother-in-law, and when he found that I could not walk, he took me on his shoulders and carried me home; I was taken to my own house, and the foot was very bad; I remained in the house three weeks, and after that I went to the hospital, but busha would not take me in, and ordered me to go the field to work; no white doctor ever attended my foot in the workhouse, but a man named Sammy used to dress it with oil to make it moist; when on the treadmill, Mr. Drake always made Romeo, the boatswain, tie my clothes up above the knees.

Elizabeth Bartley, an apprentice to Draxhall estate, sworn.

I was tried some time ago, and sent to the treadmill; the first time I went on I did very well, but afterwards, as I was in the family way, I could not keep the step, and when I could not keep it from weakness, I begged Mr. Drake, and told him, "Massa, I can't keep up, I am in the family way;" instead of letting me off, he ordered Thomas White to flog me with a cat. Thomas White flogged me on my shoulder, my feet and my rump; I told him often that I was in the family way, and he said, "If you had done good, busha would not have sent you here." Before putting me on the mill, my clothes were tied up very high, and any body standing up below could observe how I was exposed; when I was tried at Draxhall, I did not tell the magistrate that I was pregnant, but James Brown said that I was; I don't know whether the magistrate heard him. On Sundays I was locked up, but did not have the collar and chain on; I was not in the gang, but placed in solitary confinement; the other woman went out on Sundays to fetch water and sweep Mr. Drake's yard; I remember calling out to Mr. Drake, "Massa, I a'n't able, I am in two flesh," but I do not remember hearing the answer of Mr. Drake, as the mill was going round and the people crying out upon it.

Jones M^r Farlane, doctor-man on Draxhall estate, sworn.

I remember Lavinia Reynolds, when she returned from the house of correction; she went to the hothouse; she had sores on her shin, and I washed them and put a poultice on the shin; after dressing the wounds three days, she complained that I washed the sores too hard,

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and she would not allow me to put my hand upon her skin ; Dr. Bailey saw the wounds and prescribed ; after I left the leg, she did not know how to heal it, and it got worse ; I then took it in hand a second time, since which it has been getting better ; she has been in the hothouse about four months ; previously to her being sent to the treadmill, I went into the hothouse and desired her to go and sweep the busha's yard ; she did not do as she was ordered, and I put her in the lock-up house, and after that she was brought before this magistrate.

Dr. Thomas J. Bailey sworn.

I know Lavinia Reynolds ; her leg has been very bad, but is now getting better ; it was very bad when she came from the workhouse ; it was a large sore, and I should think that it proceeded from the bruises received on the treadmill ; she has always been under my observation at the hothouse, and I have prescribed for her when necessary ; the sore on her leg is one of the worst I have seen from the workhouse ; my directions were always written in the hospital book ; I did not see her in the workhouse ; she could not have been in the hospital ; had she been there, I should have seen her ; I do not remember seeing Mary Ann Shaw or Eleanor Howell as regular hospital patients ; they might have been in the hospital, off and on, and were perhaps absent when I went to visit the patients.

Cecilia Russell, an apprentice to Draxhall estate, sworn.

I remember being in the workhouse some time ago ; they used me very bad, particularly one Sunday afternoon, when the people were sweeping the yard ; Joseph Bolt, the boatswain of the yard, flogged me with a cat ; I was on the treadmill, and when I could not keep step, I was catted on my legs by the boatswain of the mill ; Mr. Drake was present, and when they catted me he desired me to keep the step ; I was catted very badly on the legs, but not on the shoulders ; when I could not keep the step I hung on the rail, and as the mill went round it bruised my shins ; while I hung that way, they flogged my legs to make me keep on ; I worked in the field with the gang, and danced the mill twice each day ; I slept at night in the woman's room with the chain and collar on.

Mr. Charles Bravo, deputy clerk of peace, St. Ann's, sworn.

I have seen the treadmill at work, both before Mr. Drake's death and after ; I observed two men on it, some time before Mr. Drake's death, suffering particular torture ; one of the men whom I saw was upwards of 50 years of age, I should think ; he had upon his knees and shins fresh bruises, as if from the effects of working on the mill the day before ; from the first evolution of the mill he never kept the step, but hung and complained dreadfully of severe pains in the back. Mr. Drake struck him repeatedly with the cat about his legs ; when the man was taken off the mill, it was with the greatest difficulty that he could limp into the house of correction ; I have had occasion to see many negroes in the house of correction, and they invariably declared that they would prefer any other punishment to that of the treadmill ; when on, they always exclaimed very piteously, crying out to be taken off, that their time was up, &c. &c., and uttering various cries, which a person suffering great pain would be supposed to do. Since the circular from the Governor, limiting treadmill punishments to ten minutes, and under the control of the present superintendent, I think that treadmill punishments have been much ameliorated, and, in fact, that the whole discipline of the workhouse has undergone a considerable change for the better ; I have seen a case lately, in which the present supervisor has used his own discretion in taking a woman down before her time had expired in consequence of his considering her unable to hold out much longer. With regard to the mill itself, I consider that the steps are too wide and deep, and that the hand-rail is very defective from its height and position ; I also think that it is highly improper that it should be worked merely at the caprice of the officer who attends it, instead of being mechanically regulated. By the books of the workhouse I have ascertained the fact, that on the 10th January 1835, there were 119 persons confined in the workhouse, and the average throughout the year 1835 would be 72 per day. From a careful and recent admeasurement of the rooms in this establishment, it is incapable of containing more than 90 persons comfortably ; I think it due to the local magistrates of the parish to state, that I have been in the peace office about six months, and that during that time no case of whipping has ever occurred, and but three or four cases of treadmill punishments. A magistrate, appointed in session to act as president of the house of correction, and the three sitting magistrates of the week, are required to inspect, weekly, the workhouse establishment, and to make what remarks they think necessary in a book prepared for that purpose ; magistrates frequently attend without making remarks, if they find all correct. I should say that the president, Mr. Lemon, is most attentive and assiduous in his visits to the workhouse, and often goes there at times when the treadmill would be at work ; Mr. Heming, the president in the gaol, is also a frequent visitor of the house of correction. I came to live in the parish a day or two after Major Light commenced his duties as a special magistrate, and that part of the narrative of James Williams, which has reference to his repeated intoxications, is perfectly true ; I have myself witnessed him in a state of intoxication, adjudicating cases in the court-house of this parish.

Question. Are you aware whether the conduct of Major Light was ever represented to the executive, either by the magistracy or other persons in the parish ?—*Answer.* The conduct of Major Light was almost generally condemned, and his unfitness for the situation he held generally admitted, even by the persons who had occasion to submit cases to his decision.

decision. I do not know that any representation was made to his Excellency the Governor, although such a step was frequently contemplated.

Q. Have you any knowledge of the number of lashes inflicted by Major Light on the apprenticed population during the time he acted as special magistrate in this parish, say from November 1836 to March 1837?—A. On examining the book containing a record of punishments in the house of correction, I find that from the 28th November 1836 to the 13th March 1837, that the number of stripes inflicted under his sentences were 2008, varying from 15 to 45 stripes, the more general number being 30. In the record of punishment for the week ending 2d January 1837, I find that there were no less than 348 stripes inflicted. On reference to the same book, I find that the corporal punishments inflicted by order of Special Justice Sowley are on an average equal in number and severity to those of Major Light.

William Higgin, constable on New Ground estate, sworn.

I knew Major Light; I remember bringing six apprentices from New Ground by his directions; they were tied two by two with ropes; Thomas Anderson and myself brought them down, and Major Light followed us behind with his servant; he went to the workhouse himself and saw that four of them were flogged; the other two were put in the shackles; I do not remember any book-keeper coming down with him; Major Light called to the boatswain, and told him, "You are not flogging those people well."

Thomas Anderson, constable on New Ground estate, sworn.

I remember coming down with William Higgin, bringing down six men to the workhouse, who were ordered there by Major Light, they were tied with ropes; we brought them down, and Major Light followed behind all the way from New Ground, and went to the workhouse and saw four of them catted; two were put in the stocks; he threatened the boatswain, and told him that if he did not flog them properly he would punish him; the men were flogged severely.

Robert Stirling, a convict in the house of correction, sworn.

I have been in the workhouse 22 years; in Mr. Drake's time I have often seen the people flogged, both men and women; sometimes they were flogged on their backs, at others on their legs; I have often seen the steps covered with blood, and I saw a pregnant woman named Susan White, of Dumbarton, put on the treadmill; I knew that she had belly, for I had eye enough to see that she was pregnant; when the people were on the mill, from the punishment they received and the knocking of their shins against the mill, they used to cry out so loud, that they might have been heard a great distance. On Sundays both men and women were employed, some in carrying wood, grass and water, others in sweeping the yard; the hoes and axes were all ground on the sabbath; parson Johnston used to come to read prayers on Sundays; but since he went away, no one came till parson Brown, who now comes every Sunday; I have seen women faint after coming off the mill, particularly Cecilia Russell, who was pregnant; when Mr. Hylton was on the bay, he used to call sometimes in the evening as he was riding by; but I never saw what he did when he went inside; the drivers were all selected from the convicts; I have heard that Mr. Jenkins and James Thomas had illicit intercourse with the women in the workhouse, but I never saw it; I, however, know that a fellow-servant of mine, named Polly Brown, had her face scratched by Mr. Jenkins's kept mistress because she was jealous of her; I remember when a number of Hiattsfeld women came to the workhouse, I cannot remember the number; James Williams, I believe, came after them; he was in while they were there; they were all put on the mill and flogged so much that a great many of them were obliged to be sent to the hospital; they used to lay down about the streets from weakness; the workhouse is much better now than it used to be in Mr. Drake's time; there is no flogging on the mill now, and no pregnant women put on it.

Mr. Alexander Levi, supervisor of the house of correction, sworn.

I took charge of the workhouse on the 18th April 1837, soon after the death of Mr. Drake; I still keep the people in the penal gang at nights in their chains and collars, in consequence of the insecurity of the workhouse; when the people are put on the treadmill now, the cat is never used, nor any other instrument of punishment; and if I find any woman sent to the treadmill in a state of pregnancy, I take it on myself to relieve her from it; it is my practice also to relieve those women who have sucking children by not working them to the extent of their sentence, if I find them suffering, and the same care is taken of their children; when the people are in the field, I generally put two of the women with young children to cook, and if there are more than two in, the other work with the gang, but are not chained two and two; they have collars on, but no chains; and the people in the penal gang twist handkerchiefs round their collars to prevent their chafing them or burning them when they become heated by the sun; since I took charge of the workhouse in April last, there have been but five corporal punishments, two by order of Captain Reynolds, a special magistrate, and three by order of Mr. St. John, another special magistrate; I know Mr. Jenkins, the late under superintendent of the workhouse, he was also the gaoler; he was dismissed by the magistrates and vestry about two months after I took charge, in consequence of his gross

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neglect of a sick patient in the gaol, who, it is said, died from his inattention; he is a man of the most violent character, addicted to liquor, and was very partial in the execution of his duty; he was a long time with Mr. Drake, not less than 12 months; I never allow the people to do work of any kind on Sunday; but generally send them to the rivers in the morning to bathe themselves; the women go to one river and the men to the other; the Rev. Mr. Brown attends every Sunday for the purpose of giving them religious instruction; since I have taken charge of the house of correction, the boatswains have not been allowed to open in the mornings the doors of the room in which the women are confined; I keep the keys myself, in consequence of the report that the boatswains, while they had the keys of the workhouse-room in which females were confined, often urged them, when opening the rooms early in the morning, to resort to them for improper purposes; I have also received instructions from Mr. Parke, the custos of the parish, to lean always to the side of mercy; and that whenever any of the prisoners in the house of correction commit faults, instead of punishing them myself, to carry them up before the stipendiary magistrate, and prefer complaints to him for their improper conduct.

Ann Burke, a free woman.

I lived with Mr. Jenkins when he was in the workhouse, and positively deny ever having had any quarrel with a woman named Ann Brown; I do not even know her.

St. Ann's Bay, Saturday, 7 October 1837.

Ann Smith, an apprentice to Hiattsfield, sworn.

I remember being sent to the workhouse last year, a whole gang of us went; there were a number of picaninny mothers among us; we were put on the mill, and when we could not keep the steps and dragged upon the mill, Mr. Jenkins flogged us on the feet by order of Mr. Drake; we were sent in for five days, and I saw a woman named Betty Williams faint upon the mill.

Betty Williams, an apprentice to Hiattsfield, sworn.

I remember being sent to the workhouse near last Christmas; several women who went in had sucking children, Felicia Smith, Cornelia Johnston, and Diana Johnston; there were several others, but I don't remember their names; I don't think there were any pregnant women among them; when we were put on the mill, and could not keep the step, Mr. Jenkins always flogged us with a cat on the legs; Mr. Drake told Jenkins to cat us well if we did not keep the step, as busha sent us to be punished; one day while I was dancing on the mill, I fainted on it and dropped down, my hands dropped out of the straps, and I fell down to the ground; I did not know any thing of it myself until next morning, when my friends told me that I had fainted, and that they were obliged to burn pumice-stone and put to my nose to restore me; it was in the evening treadmill punishment that I fainted, we had come from the field, and I had nothing to eat the whole day; I had not teeth to eat the boiled corn which they gave me, and I bought a bread when coming down; my sister also bought a bread; but Mr. Drake made us throw the bread away, and a man named Robert Stirling picked it up, and took it for himself; I came to from the fainting fit during a part of the night. I don't remember a boy named James Williams being in the workhouse at that time; he might have been there, but I did not know him. The people on the treadmill used to bawl very loud from the distress of the mill and the beating of the cat; they might have been heard at a great distance. We were sent to the workhouse on a charge of taking a day without permission; we were brought up before Mr. Woolfrys, but he would not allow us to give any explanation; the whole of the great gang took the day; the men were catted on the estate, and we were sent to the workhouse. The morning after I fainted on the mill, I was sent to the hothouse; no white doctor saw me, but the black doctor-man gave me a dose of salts; I was not put upon the mill again up to the time I went out. One woman, named Leanty Thomas, was so mashed up on the mill that she could not walk home; they were obliged to put her on a horse which her husband brought for her.

Leanty Thomas, an apprentice to Hiattsfield, sworn.

I remember being sent to the workhouse from Hiattsfield; I was sent for five days to dance the mill twice a day; there were a great many of us sent down, 21 of us; Isabella Richard was pregnant, Isabella Taylor was pregnant also; and Phillis Hayden, Sibby Byfield, Camilla Johnston, Diana Johnston, Felicia Smith, Eleanor Bailey, Maria Richard, and Louisa Williams, had sucking children; when I went on the treadmill my hands were strapped, and I could not keep the step; the mill cut my legs very bad, and Mr. Drake ordered Mr. Jenkins to cat me; he abused me by calling me all manner of indecent names, and said to the boatswain, "Give it to her well, cat her away;" my handkerchief that was on my head slipped down over my head and covered my eyes; my coat was loose and it tripped my foot, and I could not keep step good; I called to Mr. Drake, and begged him quite hard to give me time to catch up myself, and my daughter begged him quite hard, but all to no purpose; I called out, "Massa, I am dying," but he took no notice of me, and

would

would not take me off until the time was out ; I hung on the mill, and it cut me quite bad. One evening when I went on the mill, Emily Smith, my daughter, and myself went on with one lot, and for spite sake, Mr. Drake made us work another spell with the next lot, so that we worked twice that evening besides our morning spell ; the day I came out I could not walk, and Effy Brown and Sibby Byfield carried me to a house in the bay, and put me there until my husband brought a beast down to take me home ; when I got home, Philip Martin, one of my Christian brethren, took me on his back and carried me to the hothouse yard ; I told the busha, Mr. Corbett, the state I was in, and showed him my shins, but he took no notice of me, and I lay down in the yard until after busha's breakfast time, when the doctor-man, William Smith, lifted me up and carried me into the hothouse ; he then bled me, and next day gave me a dose of salts and dressed my legs ; the white doctor, Dr. Archer, looked at my legs one day before they were better, when busha had ordered me out on the road to break stones ; the feet were running very bad, and as Dr. Archer was coming by, I showed them to him, and he ordered me back to the hothouse, and desired dressing for them ; I stopped in the hothouse till after Christmas ; when I was in the workhouse, the women were all locked up together with chains and collars all night. When we went back to Hiattsfield, I saw Bella Richards in the field crying, and on asking her what she was crying for, she said that the rest of the people carried her name to her husband, saying that one of the drivers, Charles Rose, had had improper intercourse with her ; I used myself to see Charles Rose kind to her, carrying soup and water to her ; and one day I saw her go into his room, but I can't swear for what purpose she went into his house ; I have heard from several people that this girl was kept in the workhouse ; when she first danced the mill, she complained of her belly, as she was pregnant, and she was sent to the hothouse, and it was then I saw the intimacy between her and Charles Rose. When in the workhouse, eight of the women were locked up after being put on the treadmill ; Bella Richards, Letitia Forrest, Janet Smith, Isabella Taylor and myself were in the hothouse ; the rest used to work in the field ; Sibby Byfield, who went with us this time, had a young child, and was sent in about three weeks before ; I am not very certain of the time. I was present when Betty Williams fell off the mill ; she fell down after fainting ; we all cried out and thought she was dead ; she was taken up and carried to the hothouse ; one of our men from Hiattsfield, named Peter Grant, who was in the workhouse, and another man, carried her into the hothouse ; I did not see any white doctor come to her, as it was most dark, and Robert Stirling burnt a piece of pumice-stone and put to her nose ; Mr. Drake and Mr. Jenkins were both present, but I did not see them pay any attention to her ; I never saw either of them come into the hothouse to examine or see what was the matter with her. I remember the evening that Betty Williams had her bread taken from her and thrown away, by order of Mr. Drake ; one evening my daughter was on the mill, and begged for some water ; a man named Martin Brown gave her some, and when Mr. Jenkins saw it, he took the man and locked him up.

Bella Richard, an apprentice to Hiattsfield, sworn.

I remember when the whole of the women were sent to the workhouse ; I was put on the treadmill, and I told Mr. Jenkins that I was pregnant, and could not dance the mill ; he said he could not help it ; I hung on the mill, and Mr. Jenkins took a cat and catted me on the legs ; the cat did not cut my legs, it swelled them, and the mill cut up my shins ; I was only able to dance twice, and I was then sent into the hothouse ; I was three months in the family way ; I also told Mr. Woolfrys, the special magistrate, that I was breeding ; I told him so after he sentenced me to the treadmill, but he said he could not help it, that the sentence was passed already ; my back gave way when I was on the mill, and kept on until after I went out of the workhouse, when I had a mischance. When Betty Williams fainted off the mill, I remember she dropped down, and was taken to the hothouse, and the doctor-man gave her some salts ; next morning I thought that she was dead ; all of us tried to bring her to. One morning Mr. Drake came into the hospital and asked if we did not intend to go to work ; I pleaded sickness, and he told us we were all worthless people, that we had plenty of mouth, but could not work the mill ; and he then kicked me on my back, and kicked another girl, named Jane Smith ; I heard that some of the people were put on the mill twice in the afternoon to pay for those who were in the hothouse.

Emily Smith, an apprentice to Hiattsfield, apparently about 54 or 55 years of age, sworn.

I remember being sent to the treadmill ; I had a pain in the stomach and could not keep the step ; all my legs were bruised and cut up with the cat by a black man ; Jenkins used to be present, and ordered the man to cat me. I saw Betty Williams when she fell off the mill, she was quite ill, I thought she was dead.

William Clarke, a constable on Hiattsfield, sworn.

I remember bringing 21 women down from Hiattsfield to the workhouse ; there was a man in the workhouse at the same time belonging to Hiattsfield, named Peter Grant ; the women were sent in for taking a day without busha's orders. I remember when Leanty Thomas came from the workhouse ; she could not walk, and was brought home by her husband on a horse ; I saw her legs, and they were both much cut up.

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Rebecca Smith, a prisoner in the house of correction, from Tobolski estate, sworn.

I was in the workhouse in Mr. Drake's time; I have often seen Mr. James Hylton, then deputy clerk of the peace, come to the workhouse and desire Mr. Jenkins to take the weights off by which the mill was guided, so as to make it go round quick, and when the weights were taken off, the mill got away and we hung by the straps, and then he would tell Mr. Jenkins to flog us till we got the step; sometimes also he would come in the evening, and stop in the mill-house, and send to Mr. Jenkins to tell him to bring the people out that he might see them worked on the mill; Mr. Jenkins then called out to Martin Brown to bring us out; this was at our regular time of punishment. Sometimes he would come with his lady in his chaise, and leave her in the chaise while he went into the mill-house to see us dance on the mill; where he left Mrs. Hylton with the chaise, she could not help seeing us while we were undergoing the punishment. The first time I was sent to the workhouse I did not know how to keep step, and I had on a baize coat, and the man who flogged me, named Henry Jones, cut my baize coat completely off; sometimes when Mr. Hylton came into the workhouse he was quite drunk; this was in the afternoon; I never saw him use the whip himself, nor never heard that he did it; I was once flogged with a bamboo by a man named Robert Laing, who first of all chained two other women and myself together; he put two heavy chains on me, as I was the middle woman, and I then had a young sucking child in my arms; he first hit me across the stomach with a bamboo, and afterwards on the back; the bamboo cut my back, and the mark is still on it. When Mr. Jenkins came up, he quarrelled with Robert Laing, and told him that if I was a bad woman, I might prosecute him when I went out; we always slept with either the chain or collar on at nights. I have often heard that the drivers, James Thomas and James Bolt, used to have improper intimacies with the women, but I never saw it; a woman named Jane Gordon was mentioned as one of the women who James Bolt had an improper intimacy with.

Jane Gordon, a prisoner in the house of correction, from Home Castle, sworn.

I was in the workhouse before this time, in Mr. Drake's time; James Thomas used to open the door in the morning; he called me to his room and asked me to have an improper intimacy with him; I consented from fear, for he had asked me once before, and when I refused to go to him, he beat me near the river and knocked me into it.

The Reverend *John Williams*, Wesleyan missionary, sworn.

I have been a resident here one year and eleven months; I have not had any opportunity whatever to obtain a knowledge of the discipline of the workhouse. I have at times visited the sick in the hospital, but never had any time to take particular notice of the discipline of the establishment, so as to compare it with others. With regard to the working of the abolition law, a respectable man, an apprentice to Mr. Hull, by the name of Jones, informed me, that he had been frequently disturbed in his family worship by the late Mr. Hull, the owner of the property to which he was attached; Mr. Hull frequently threatened him, if he continued to hold family worship, to pull his place down. I often inquired whether he disturbed his master, and the information afforded me was, that he was so near that his master could hear him singing psalms, but at the same time several of the other apprentices who would sing songs were not complained against as disturbers. I have frequently inquired whether any thing like a public meeting was held, but I have been assured that, with the exception of one or two strange persons, the meeting was entirely confined to the family. Jones was employed in family worship on a Sabbath morning with only one strange person present on this occasion, when he was summoned to the master's house to give an account for the preaching, as it was termed; he denied preaching, but admitted the family worship, pointing out to his master the verse of the hymn which he had been singing; his master construed his denial into insolence, and brought him up before Mr. Sowley, special magistrate, who sentenced him to be flogged. Mrs. Williams, who saw him subsequently, stated to me that his back was much lacerated by the flogging; and he himself informed me that it was the first punishment of the kind he had received; he was apparently about 50 years of age at that time. Jones subsequently mentioned to me that at the time of his trial the magistrate, Mr. Sowley, desired the constable to look out for those people who were praying and bring them to him; this is the only case of abuse which has come under my consideration. I have always instructed persons who were attached to my ministry that they are quite justified in holding family and social worship, but that they are to avoid by all possible means disturbing their employers, and not to allow these meetings to exceed the number of 20. A representation of this circumstance was made to the Governor, and the magistrate was subsequently dismissed.

Robert Laing, alias *Lyne*, formerly a convict in the house of correction, examined, but not sworn, as he did not appear to have the knowledge of an oath.

I was driver last year in the workhouse; I know James Thomas, he was the head driver; I knew a woman named Sally, belonging to Mr. Cohen of Coolshade, she was not an old woman; I remember her being chained to Mary Murray; I remember the day we were cutting penguins at Banks's negro-houses; we were cutting them to plant at Springfield
lime

time walk; Sally could not keep up that day in her work; Mary Murray was a young girl; we were working there several days, and rain used to catch us sometimes; some days it rained, and on other days it did not. James Thomas was shoving on as fast as he could, to make the people finish the work; Mary Murray could always do her work better than Sally; I never saw James Thomas cat Sally; but Mr. Drake, the supervisor, stood near me one day and made me give her two licks with a Guava switch; I never saw the driver flog any body except her; I don't know a boy named James Williams.

Mr. *Richard Jenkins*, formerly overseer in the house of correction, sworn.

I remember a woman by the name of Peggy who belonged to Newhope, the property of Mr. Codner; she came to the workhouse in a debilitated state; one of her feet was swelled with crab yaws, and she used to complain of pains in her stomach, the effect of eating dirt; I have myself caught her eating fire-coal; she was never worked on the treadmill, for she was unfit to be put on, and Mr. Drake would not place her on it; she died in the workhouse, having been previously attended by the doctor, and an inquest was held on the body. I remember the man alluded to in the letter marked H., named M'Dermott, he was committed to the workhouse for running away from his master, Mr. Gyles; Mr. Drake showed me the letter when he received it.

(Copy.)

Dear Sir,

Recess, 26 Sept. 1836.

I thank you for your favour per post; Messrs. Harris and Pallmer has made my people, and in fact the whole of the Walk's apprentices, so rebellious, that I dread any addition, particularly upon my property, may produce a flame, therefore I shall leave Mr. M'Dermott to your tender mercies; he has done not more than one week for me this year; he is a particular friend of Mr. Harris.

I remain, &c.

S. Drake, Esq., St. Ann's Bay.

N. Gyles.

My impression was that as the people in the workhouse were then worked pretty strong, that Mr. Gyles meant he should be well worked; he was never whipped nor placed on the treadmill, but was worked in the gang at hard labour in the field; he fell sick and died in the workhouse. I remember a woman named "Sally," of Coolshade; I never saw her come in with any marks on her as if beaten in the field; when the gang were working at Banks's negro-houses, she complained to me that the driver was more severe with her than with any body else, and I told her I had nothing to do with the field-work, as Mr. Drake was always present there himself; when she was on the treadmill she could not keep step and was flogged by the boatswain, under orders of Mr. Drake, who told him that whenever the people could not keep step he must touch them up a bit. This was frequently done by directions of Mr. Drake; the light cat-o'-nine-tails, knotted, was generally used for the purpose of touching them up; whenever the people would not keep the step while the mill was going on at a slow movement, Mr. Drake would order it to be propelled at a quicker rate, so that it might bruise their legs a bit, by way of punishment. I know Mr. James Hylton, he used to call at the workhouse during the time of treadmill punishment, but I do not remember his being there drunk, nor do I remember his throwing the weights off the lever himself; he used to call sometimes twice a week with Mrs. Hylton in the chaise; he was one evening in the mill-house, and Mrs. Hylton called out to him, saying, "Come, let us go;" he once directed the mill to be put to a greater speed, and it was done so agreeably to his orders; I never saw him take the cat and flog any body himself; I remember having worked persons six times a day, at 15 minutes each time, by sentence of Special Justice Burford or Bedford; there were several instances of this sort. The men in the workhouse were employed on Sundays in getting wood and grass, and the women in cleaning out the yard and carrying water; when they came off the mill they were always allowed to go to the sea-side and wash their feet; I often heard complaints that the head field-driver, James Thomas, had frequently had illicit intercourse with the women in the field; there were several instances of this sort, and I have not the least doubt of it; I also understood from Mr. Drake himself that the boatswains in the yard were also engaged in the same illicit intercourse with the women. When women complained of being pregnant, unless the doctor declared them so, if the sentence directed them to be put on the mill, they were placed on it; women with young children were also placed on the mill; I do not recollect Mr. Drake's putting the Hiattsfeld people twice on the mill in one evening to pay for those who were in the hothouse. The system pursued in the workhouse during the time of Mr. Drake's administration was certainly a harsh one; there is one very dark room used as a dungeon, with no ventilation whatever, unless when the door is kept half open during the day; the same is used for condemned people when sentenced to be hung; this room was sometimes used as a place of solitary confinement, and is closed at night, it is in the gaol department, and is sometimes used for workhouse punishment. I remember the fact of a woman having been confined there at the time of Mr. Sturge's visit to the workhouse; she was confined there for seven days and nights. During the time that the Reverend Mr. Pitter was here, he constantly visited the workhouse establishment, but since his departure no other minister in my time came there. It was not common for the visiting magistrates to come to the workhouse and inspect the working of

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the treadmill; they visited the workhouse. I do not remember any other magistrate but Mr. Hylton and Dr. Ruffington visiting the house of correction and personally obtaining knowledge as to the working of the mill at the time when the people used to be so dreadfully bruised.

Dr. *Barnett*, who was present when the evidence of the last witness was read to him, stated on oath, that he was in attendance on from 40 to 60 properties in the parish; that he has never in one instance seen in his practice on those estates any injury to the feet of the parties put on the treadmill, although he has heard of one or two cases, but is not aware of the parties. With regard to the illicit intercourse stated by Richard Jenkins to have been carried on between James Thomas and the women confined in the workhouse from time to time, Dr. Barnett observed, that it is the current report that he, Richard Jenkins, himself set the improper example. Dr. Barnett could give no information as to the discipline of the house of correction, as he has but few opportunities of visiting that establishment, in consequence of the distance of his residence.

Richard Heming, esq., magistrate of the parish of St. Ann, sworn.

I have been in the habit of visiting the workhouse frequently during the last four or five years, and more constantly since 1832. I have seen the treadmill at work; I have seen the people, when taken off during the supervisorship of Mr. Drake, and never saw but one case where the shins of the party were materially injured; I have heard that others were injured; I have always considered the wheel faulty for this reason, the quickening or lessening its speed was entirely at the pleasure of the individual who regulates the lever, and he can therefore either favour those towards whom he is friendly disposed, or injure others against whom he entertains any ill-will. I recommended Mr. Drake to have the wheel regulated by weight; if this has not been done, the fault cannot be attributed to any thing else but the disobedience of those orders. Mr. Drake often assured me that the reason why the knees of some of the persons were bruised is their determination of not treading. One instance of this determination not to tread I saw myself; the man, however, was not bruised, he was taken down immediately, to be put on again when a weaker gang was on this I believe to have been Mr. Drake's general conduct. I have seen James Thomas threaten people on the mill with the cat, but I never saw him use it in such a way as to do them any injury by an infliction of punishment.

James Thomas, formerly a field-driver in the house of correction, sworn.

I remember a woman named "Sally," at Coolshade; she was not able to keep up with the rest of the gang, and when she complained to me that she could not walk, I always made her lie down in the cart and carried her into the field, and when she could not keep up her work, I made her lie down under the cart in the shade; she was quite sick. One morning when working at Banks's negro-houses, she was chained to Mary Murray, and I loosed her and told her to go and lie down until she got better. She did not work that day, but went home to the house of correction in the evening; the next day she turned out in the field and did her work. I never carried a cat in the field. Mr. Drake told me not to do so; I carried Guava switches. Mary Murray was a young active girl, but Sally was not active. I never saw any driver in the field having improper intimacy with the women myself; but when the women were mashed up on the treadmill and came in the field, I used to have consideration for them; I have heard that when they missed the step, they kept on licking them to make them keep up; I have often been to see the mill working in the evening, when I have returned from work; and the overseer, Mr. Jenkins, would not allow me to stop, but would drive me away; sometimes, however, Mr. Jenkins would call me himself, and beg me to flog the people; some of them would not dance at all, and then they hung; I never saw the women's clothes tied up beyond their knees. Mr. Jenkins gave orders to be very particular in not tying the clothes up in an indecent manner. The field people were sometimes given a quart of flour, and sometimes a quart of corn for their food, with a shad between two. I have seen Mr. Parke, Mr. Lemon, Mr. Heming and Mr. Hylton come to see the treadmill work in Mr. Drake's time; when they came, the mill was always worked slower than at other times, and the people were never flogged. People could not see the wounds on the shins of the persons who were bruised, as they used to wash their knees in the sea, and wear their clothes down, but they used to walk lame. Mr. Hylton used to come to the workhouse, and always told them not to make the mill go round fast; one evening Mr. Hylton was there, and a woman did not know how to dance, she hung on the mill, and the mill stopped; but Mr. Hylton would not allow it to stop; the mill went on, and the woman bawled out; I then went away; when people were hanging, generally the mill was stopped to allow them to get on; it was only in the evening that Mr. Hylton was there that the woman hung and the mill was not stopped; it went on, and Mr. Hylton said he must lick her to make her get on.

Mr. *Heming* recalled.

I never had occasion to bring but one case before Major Light myself; I should say that he partook rather too freely of the bottle; but whenever I saw him, it was just business hours; I never saw much of him, as I am not much in Major Light's district.

Israel Lemon, esq., magistrate of St. Ann's, and president of the house of correction, sworn.

I was present once or twice during supervisorship of Mr. Drake, when the people were on the mill; I did not stop until they were finished; the people were stubborn and hung; and the drivers touched them occasionally to make them keep the step; I did not see any cruelty practised. When they hung, I gave directions that the mill should be stopped, and Mr. Drake immediately complied, and I have ever known him to take them off. It has never occurred in my presence that lame persons or pregnant women, or any debilitated person, has been put on the mill; had I observed any thing of this kind, I should have thought it my duty as a magistrate to put a stop to it. I think that the treadmill might be altered, according to the suggestion of Mr. Gordon, in such a manner as to render it a more fit and proper instrument of punishment. I did not think that Mr. Drake's conduct was harsh, I think he was rather indulgent to the negroes; the convicts were so indulged by him that they will now scarcely do any thing; they did not receive any greater proportion of food than the apprentices, but they had several indulgences; many of them were drivers, and consequently received more than the others. I never heard any confirmatory accounts of cruelty on the part of Jenkins, the late overseer, but I was instrumental in obtaining his discharge, in consequence of inattention to his general duties, and neglect of a woman named Ann Coombs, a prisoner, who died in gaol. In one particular instance he employed a prisoner (who had been committed for trial for assaulting an immigrant) in carrying things to a booth which he erected on the race-course; the man made his escape, and has never been taken. I was acquainted with Major Light, he was so addicted to liquor as to make him perfectly incompetent to hold so responsible a situation as that of a special magistrate; this was a fact generally known and admitted; I do not know whether any remonstrance was ever made against him to the executive. I do not think it proper to employ convicts as drivers, but we cannot get persons to take these situations; it is, however, my intention to advertise for competent persons.

On the suggestion of Messrs. Gordon and Daughtrey, Mr. Lemon said he would take the earliest opportunity to recommend the doing away with the chains and collars being placed on the people in the workhouse at night.

Martin Brown, late a convict in the St. Ann's Bay house of correction, sworn.

I was a boatswain attending the treadmill; I remember when Betty Williams was in the workhouse; she came with several other women from Hiattsfeld, they were ordered to be put on the treadmill; Mr. Jenkins, the overseer, wanted to work the mill, and I said, No, it is my duty to do it; he insisted on working it, and I got hurted and left the mill to him; he then took off all the weights, and the mill turned round as hard as it could go; the people then all hung on, and the wheel coming in contact with their shins, cut them to pieces.

The same evening a girl from Hiattsfeld, named Effy Brown, begged me to give her a drink of water; she had not yet been put on the mill; I brought it, and Mr. Jenkins quarrelled with me for doing it; and as we got to words, he fell upon me and tore my shirt to pieces; we both of us went to Mr. Drake, and when Jenkins told him what was the matter, Mr. Drake told him to carry me down to the workhouse, and he would come and see about it; when he came, he ordered Mr. Jenkins to put me in the dark cell under the gaoler's room, where they put people who are condemned to be hung; the place is very dark, and no air can get in at all; I was kept there for seven days, and never brought before a magistrate; there is no seeing at all in the cell when the door is closed. The girl, Effy Brown, is a young girl; the reason I was kind to her is because it is my nature to be kind; I never had any improper intercourse with any of the women myself, nor did I ever hear of Mr. Jenkins or any of the drivers doing so; when the people were on the mill and could not keep step, Mr. Drake desired Jenkins to cat them, and as I was keeping the mill, I received orders from Mr. Jenkins to cat them; I used to cat them therefore under these orders, and sometimes they were flogged very severely, and their shins were much bruised; I remember well that two women from Draxhall could not walk after being put on the mill, and that Mr. Drake put them in a cart belonging to Roaring River, and sent them home. I often saw Mr. Hylton come to the workhouse in the evening when the people were on the mill; he would drive near the door of the treadmill-house, and complain that the mill was not going fast enough; whenever he came down he told Mr. Jenkins that the mill was not going fast enough, and gave orders to make it go faster; he ordered me to take the weights off more than six times, and then the mill went so fast that the people could not keep step, and he ordered the people to be flogged as they hung by the wrists; he would sometimes drive there with Mrs. Hylton in the evening, and as the chaise stopped opposite the door of the treadmill-house, Mrs. Hylton would look in to see the people on the mill, and hear the noise which they made, as they were obliged to cry out loud from the pain; they were sometimes raked all down the thighs and legs; sometimes Mrs. Hylton would send in to call him out; he used frequently to desire Mr. Jenkins to flog the people, as he said they were sent in to be punished by their masters, and they should be punished; I never saw him take the cat and flog the people himself.

Edward Jones, an apprentice to Chester plantation, the property of Mrs. Hull, sworn.

I am an apprentice to Mrs. Hull. One Sunday morning, at sun-rise, I thought it my duty to give thanks to God by prayer and hymn in the morning; my wife and my five children,

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children, and a woman who is a sister member, were the only persons present; after we had finished singing, my master sent down the constable, Thomas Wilson, to see who was there; when Wilson came down, he said for what he was sent, and I showed him the people; a little after he called me up to master's house; master then told me, "I have spoken to you about your preaching;" I replied I was not preaching, I was merely praying with my family; I did not pretend to be a preacher; he then told me he had often spoken to me about this praying, and on Monday he would take me to the magistrate, Mr. Sowley, to give an account of myself. He charged me with holding meetings all about, and I told him No, that it was only in my house with my family, and that on Tuesday evenings I would have a few of my friends and neighbours, not exceeding eight or nine; we had nothing but prayer and hymn; he told me that my singing on the Sunday mornings disturbed him, and charged me with singing at nights; I replied I never sung the hymns until after the rising of the sun in the morning, and that some of the people sung songs at nights from Friday to Sunday, and I asked him if that did not disturb him; he said no, and that I was impudent. On the Monday morning I was brought before the magistrate under charge of disturbing master by singing, and also for impudence; I explained my case to the magistrate, who said that my master could not hinder me from praying, but that he would punish me for insolence; he then ordered me to be catted; I received 20 lashes; I never was flogged but then, since the apprenticeship; I have continued to hold my meetings since then to the present day, as I consider it my duty to do so.

Thomas Wilson, constable to Chester plantation, sworn.

I have heard the evidence of Edward Jones, and I swear that it is all true; the affair took place exactly as he described it; I used to attend some of the meetings myself; there was no disturbance whatever; they used to be over between eight and nine o'clock at night.

On an inspection of the magistrates' visiting books by the commissioners, no strictures appear respecting the workhouse or treadmill; there are several notices of the insecurity of the gaol; but the more common record is "all correct;" with reference to the gaol, the following memorandum occurs, under date December 8th, 1835, and there are others to the same effect:

"Visited; no gaoler present; prisoners all at large; no external fences to the gaol yard, and no preparations made to carry into effect the repeated reports of committees, that the gaol is insecure, and unfit for the reception of prisoners, as the late frequent escapes too plainly evince the gaol is totally insecure, unless the prisoners are put in irons, and I hereby enter my protest against the magistrates and vestry for their supineness.

(signed) *R. H. J. Heming."*

Examination on oath of the Rev. *Henry Brown*, officiating minister at the Established Church, in the absence of the Rev. *G. W. Bridges*, rector of St. Ann's.

Question. What is the particular situation you occupy in this parish?—*Answer.* I am the substitute for the Rev. Mr. Bridges, the rector, during his absence from the colony.

Q. When did you enter upon these duties?—*A.* On the 2d July in the present year.

Q. Are you in the habit of occasionally visiting the workhouse and gaol?—*A.* I do so statedly on Sunday mornings, before the commencement of the public duties of the day.

Q. What religious service do you perform there?—*A.* I read a portion of the prayers, selecting such as appear best adapted to the capacities and condition of the prisoners; after which I address them for about a quarter of an hour in as plain a manner as I can.

Q. With your other important engagements, are you able to give such attention to the unhappy inmates of these institutions as their ignorance and moral degradation obviously call for?—*A.* I must say that at present I cannot, but I hope soon to be able to pay them some attention on week days, as well as the Sabbath.

Q. Can you suggest any ready means of better supplying the religious wants of these institutions?—*A.* If I had the assistance of a licensed catechist, a man of the right spirit, I think the attention he could give might be extremely useful.

Q. Would not the visits of a suitable teacher on Sundays, for the purpose of collecting such of the prisoners as are disposed to avail themselves of the advantage of a reading school, have a tendency to promote the more decent observance of the day among the prisoners, and probably their moral amendment?—*A.* Certainly; some plan of that sort would be most desirable, and I should consider that a catechist, if he were a religious man, would be a fit person to undertake it.

Note of corporal punishment inflicted at the St. Ann's workhouse under sentences of Major *Light*, from the 28th November 1836 to the 13th March 1837.

From Richmond estate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	lashes	20
„ Greenwich park pen	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	„	40
„ Seville estate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	„	134
„ Draxhall estate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	„	477
„ Wakefield estate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	„	88
„ Priory pen	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	„	12

From

From Blenheim estate (the residence of Major Light)	-	lashes	503
„ Windsor estate	- - - - -	„	119
„ Arthur's Mount (pen)	- - - - -	„	84
„ New Ground estate	- - - - -	„	94
„ Mammee-bay estate	- - - - -	„	30
„ Bogg pen	- - - - -	„	39
„ Cranbrook estate	- - - - -	„	30

It however appeared that other corporal punishments (on reference to the committal book) added to the above, made a gross amount of 2,008 stripes inflicted in the workhouse during the administration of Major Light, irrespective of others to which the apprentices may have been sentenced on the properties.

The commissioners on inquiry found that on Llandoverly estate, the largest property in the district, the interposition of Major Light appeared not to have been called for.

(Examined—true copy) S. R. Warren, Sec.

Court of Inquiry, Brown's Town, Tuesday, 3 October 1837.

Additional evidence taken in the case of *John James* of Owen plantation.

John Wallace, an apprentice to Owen, sworn.

Knows John James; remembers seeing him with a collar and chain on some time ago, put on by the overseer; they were put on because he ran away; the chain was wrapt round his body and covered with his shirt, so that any body passing by could not see it; he had them on for a fortnight.

Remembers the collar being put on Monday, last week, by the overseer; he was also switched by the overseer.

Henry Gray, an apprentice to Owen, sworn.

Knows John James; busha put the collar and chain on before.

John Wallace re-called.

Busha used also to switch a boy, named Hercules, for running away.

Jamaica ss.

Personally appeared before me, Gilbert William Senior, who, being duly sworn, states that he has known William Dalling for many years; that previous to the 1st of August 1834, he considered William Dalling to be a faithful and attached servant, and had no fault to find with him, except that he frequently, when he had an opportunity, got intoxicated; but he was always civil and obedient to both master and mistress, who had the greatest confidence in him, and could always believe what he said. On the 1st of August 1834, he became insolent and discontented, and, though he claimed to be classed as a domestic, he took all the time allowed to the prædials; he seemed from the 1st of August to be the director of all James Williams's movements, urging him on to be insolent and disobedient; it was part of William Dalling's duty to see that James Williams dressed the sheep before they were turned out every morning; but from the 1st of August every thing was neglected, and deponent lost the greater part of 18 lambs, which were under the care of these two apprentices.

From the 1st of August 1834, deponent observed an entire change in William Dalling; he joined the sect called Baptists, who had so much power over him as to break him of the habit of intoxication; but they taught him another habit, "never to speak truth."

In his evidence before the magistrates, when he said he never carried food to James Williams and Adam Brown, when they were confined in the cells at Knapdale, he said what was false. A sufficient quantity of food, rather more than was ordered by Captain Dillon, was given to William Dalling to carry to Knapdale for James Williams and Adam Brown, with orders to clean out the cells. Peter Atkinson might sometimes have carried the food; but he was a sawyer, and it is not likely that he would have been taken from his work every day, leaving his fellow sawyer to be idle till he returned; his evidence respecting the nave of the cart-wheel having injured Henry James's stomach, when he was flogged by order of Dr. Thompson, is false; for it is impossible that his stomach could have touched the nave of a cart-wheel five feet in diameter; Henry James had for years complained of pain in his stomach, and for that reason was taken from the saw and placed as a watchman.

His evidence that James Williams did not assist John Lawrence in stealing the pork, is false; James Williams himself acknowledges the fact, and William Dalling was quite aware that they were both concerned in the robbery; William Dalling said that he did not know if the people got medicine when sick; Marianne Bell stated that medicine was never refused; William Dalling being always in the yard, must have known that it was so; previous to the 1st of August 1834, William Dalling always took the medicine from his mistress to give to the sick; but his behaviour was so bad afterwards, that he was not intrusted with it.

William Dalling swore that he did not know James Williams to be a thief; deponent has no hesitation in stating that William Dalling knew that James Williams was a notorious thief; he knew that he robbed the provision grounds, and that he was several times detected by the

watchmen;

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watchmen ; that he stole provisions of all kinds out of the stores ; and that the last time he was sent to the house of correction, he stole the house-dog, which he must have sold, as the dog was never heard of again.

(signed) *G. W. Senior.*

Sworn before me this 10th day of October 1837.

(signed) *Thomas Raffington, jun.*

James Williams, apprentice to Miss Senior, has been about the yard and house since he was a baby ; his mother was a domestic and very indolent and sickly ; he was almost supported by his master and mistress till within a few years ; becoming troublesome about the house, he was sent to attend the stock (which he seemed to have a turn for), and carry grass and bread-nuts for them, which kept him still a good deal about the yard, where he always slept ; once, in my brother's absence, who had taken the other men-servants with him, he came in to get my tea ; when that was over I desired him to see about his other business, but he would not, and laid himself down on the floor to give me an account of my cattle ; he said that his master might not cheat me ; when I told him to go again, he shut the door, put against it, and kept thumping it with his back for some time ; I said, "James this is not to be borne with ; will you go about your business ?" from the noise he had made I think he must have had an accomplice, and wished to prevent my hearing what was going forward. After repeatedly speaking to him, he said he would go if I would give him a piece of candle ; to get quit of him, I told him to take a piece that was on the table, though his master had often told him he should not get a candle, as there was no occasion for it ; before going to bed I went to the store, and was astonished to find that a large pock that I had made Marianne (one of the house-women) put on the barrel of sugar at dusk, in the middle of the room ; I called Marianne, and showing it to her, she said, "Ha ! missis been make me put that on the sugar barrel before tea, and how it come down here ?" the watchman, who was asleep in the kitchen, declared it could be no one but James Williams ; a good deal of the sugar was gone, and the flour barrel next to it was also plundered ; we were after that out of provisions and obliged to purchase ; I put the yams in the same store, and was surprised that they lasted so short a time ; I spoke to the person I bought them from ; she said they did seem to go fast, but I could not blame her as I saw them weighed ; I could not find out where they went, till one day my brother went to the provision grounds and got half a basket of cocoas ; he had them brought in to me, and said, "You must make the most of those till we can get some more ;" they were mostly fine large cocoas ; at night I went to give some of them out for breakfast, when to my astonishment most of the best were gone, and only a few of the smaller ones left ; the servants pretended to look for them, but returned and said they were no where to be found ; this kind of pilfering had been going on so long, that I then said, "I will search myself ;" after looking in several places, I thought of the kitchen ; on going there I found a large calabash heaped up with these very cocoas, and James fast asleep on a board by the fire, after having, no doubt, made a good supper on some of them ; I kept what I found, and the next morning James claimed them ; I then called William Dalling, who looked at them and said, "They are master's cocoas ; James has none like them ;" the little boy () was then called who brought them in, and said they were the same that he brought in ; I considered the said James Williams so friendless that he would bring his clothes to me to have made for him, and I always had them done ; he never made a proper ground or attended to it, so that he could not support himself without stealing from others. William Dalling knew all this, and yet comes forward and takes his oath that James Williams is an industrious boy and a good character ; as soon as the apprenticeship began, he did every thing to annoy us, and for no cause, for often when William Dalling wished to impose on him I have prevented it.

(signed) *S. J. K. Senior.*

Sworn before me this 10th October 1837.

Edward Tucker.

(Examined) *S. R. Warren, Sec.*

William Dalling, apprentice to Miss Senior, has been in her family ever since a child of 18 months old ; first with her grandmother, and at her death to Miss S., on whom and her brother he has waited ever since, and always considered by them and all acquainted with them, as a valuable servant, remarkably civil and attentive, never disobeying an order, or dissatisfied when required to do any thing in his own time ; every confidence was placed in him, and they would have vouched for his truth and honesty ; but since his joining the Baptists, and the apprenticeship system, he has entirely altered ; he has shown his ill-will to his owners in every way he has sworn to the most abominable falsehoods ; he says he saw nothing wrong in James Williams's conduct ; the last time James Williams was punished, before the apprenticeship commenced, was by William Dalling in his master's absence from home ; he came to his mistress and said, "I have cut some switches for James ;" she inquired for what fault ; he replied, "He took the donkeys to go for bread-nuts, tied them at the gate, and went about his business ; and when I spoke to him about it, he took them out of sight and beat them severely ; he is really a bad boy."

(signed) *S. J. K. Senior.*

Sworn before me this 10th day of October 1837.

(signed) *Edward Tucker.*

(Examined) *S. R. Warren, Sec.*

(No. 213.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith* to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Spanish Town, 13 November 1837.

IN transmitting your Lordship the Supplemental Reports of the Commissioners of Inquiry on the case of James Williams, I beg to explain to your Lordship, that about the same time that I received Williams's pamphlet complaints came from various missionaries, representing acts of severity or cruelty against Mr. Rawlinson, in his capacity as special justice, towards apprentices. As soon, therefore, as the Commissioners had finished the case of Williams, I begged them to enter on the complaints of the missionaries, and your Lordship is now put in possession of their Reports.

Your Lordship will find they embrace all the tangible cases represented by Joseph Sturge, as contained in your Lordship's despatch, No. 137, 9th September 1837, and No. 148, of the 21st September 1837.

There is one anonymous complaint enclosed in your Lordship's letter, No. 137, which I cannot answer as to facts. I have strictly prohibited the chaining of any prisoner before trial, but I cannot help it after conviction.

In conclusion, I have to assure your Lordship that I have called upon the attorney-general to prosecute all parties who would appear to be guilty of any acts of oppression towards the apprentices, in the Minutes of the Inquiry now laid before your Lordship.

(signed)

Lionel Smith.

Enclosure 1, in No. 50.

Encl. 1, in No. 50.

John James's Case; Owen Plantation.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

Taken at *Brown's Town* in the case of a Boy named *John James*, who appeared before the Commissioners with an iron collar round his neck.

MONDAY, 2 October 1837.

John James, apparently about 12 or 13 years of age; sworn.

I BELONG to Owen; busha's name is Mr. Nesbett: my mother and my father are not at Owen. I belong to Mr. Utten, the proprietor of Owen, so does my mother, but my father belongs to Mount Pleasant. My mother lives at Valley Minor; she hires out; I have not any person to take care of me at Owen. My mother is named Eliza James; my father is named Robert James.

The iron collar round my neck was put by Mr. Nesbett round my neck last Monday, because I run away. I run away because I could not get any victuals at Owen; there is nobody there to give me any. As my mother was at Valley Minor, about 23 miles from Owen, I ran away and went to the place where she lives, but did not show myself to her. When I go away, sometimes I go to her; at others I go down and stand all about in the pastures. My father caught me this time in his hut, and was vexed with me for not coming straight to him when I ran away; this was at Mount Pleasant; he carried me to Valley Minor, a property belonging to Mr. Utten, the proprietor also of Owen, and gave me in charge to a constable, who sent me up to Owen; got to Owen Monday dinner-time. I saw the busha, who took and flogged me himself with pimento switches; he pulled my frock off and tied me to a tree, (here the boy exhibited marks of a severe flogging); after flogging he sent me to work until Saturday, and locked me up every night; he put the iron collar round my neck just as he finished flogging me. Last year, dry weather, I ran away, and when I came back he put the collar on my neck, he put it on at that time with chains; he also flogged me then with a cat, the tails of which were knotted; he flogged me on my bottom, and marked me a great deal with it. I run away some time after, and he flogged me again with a cat, but did not put chain and collar on me. Captain T. H. Dillon, the special magistrate, sometimes comes to Owen, but I was never carried before him, nor was I ever ordered by him to be switched. Mr. Nesbett flogged me of his own free will; whenever the collar is on me I never run away, but button up my shirt, so that nobody may see it, and that the collar may not burn my neck, as the sun made it hot.

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Eliza James, an Apprentice to Valley Minor; sworn.

I am hired out from Valley Minor plantation to myself, paying 5s. 10d. per week for wages; John James is my son, I have five children also; he lives at Owen, quite far from Valley Minor. John James lives quite far, and sometimes I do not see him for three months; after the apprenticeship law came in I was moved from Valley Minor to Owen; my master removed me; I told him I was willing to go; but when I found out the distance, and that it was so distressing for me to go and see my husband and two of my children whom I left at Valley Minor, I begged to be allowed to hire out to myself, which request was granted; I was not taken before the special magistrate that he might sanction my removal; no special magistrate ever asked me whether I was willing to go and live at Owen; when I got permission to hire out, John James stopped at Owen, and had no family or any body to take care of him; he has an aunt there who can scarcely take care of herself. The people are always jobbing out there; John James runs away sometimes from Owen, and comes down to where I am; John James comes to Valley Minor, and sometimes he stops all about the bushes and pastures, and sometimes comes to me. The last time his father set a watch for him, caught him in his own garden at Mount Pleasant, and carried him over to Valley Minor, and gave him in charge to a constable, who sent him to Owen, Mr. Nesbitt having left word that if he was caught he was to be taken to Owen. Mr. Nesbitt is the overseer of Valley Minor as well as Owen; never saw him from that time until last night, when his cousin brought him to me with a collar on; never saw the collar or chain on him till now, but heard that once before this he had a collar and chain on some time ago before this; I have, however, often seen him with marks of a very severe flogging, his skin was much cut up, but not so bad as it is now; his feet were also filled with chigoes, as he had not any body to take care of him. We often thought of going to a magistrate to complain, but as we thought we should be treated worse if we went to him, we always kept away.

This witness had a child in her arms about three months old.

William Fleming, an Apprentice to Owen; sworn.

I know John James, he is my cousin; I brought him here with the iron collar round his neck; he had been absent for six days, and was brought home to Owen by a constable. Mr. Nesbitt, the overseer of Owen, took and tied him with his own hand to a tree, and switched him; after switching him he put on the iron collar which he has now on his neck; the collar was put on last Monday the 25th September, and the boy has been working since with the collar on; he then ordered an old man, named Robert Campbell, to lock him up at nights in a dungeon; the boy was locked up Tuesday and Wednesday nights; I am sure of that, but cannot speak with certainty as to Thursday; I went into the dungeon myself on Tuesday, and found it so wet that I could put my hand down and take up the wet dirt; the people have not been put in there for a long time; no board was there for the boy to sleep upon; he was not locked up on the Friday and Saturday nights, as the old man would not lock him up as busha was not there; he slept in a little room in the apprentice yard belonging to one of his uncles; he has an uncle on the property and an aunt. These persons and myself work on three different properties belonging to my master, Owen Valley, Minor, and Castleton; when we go from one property to the other, we stop the whole week. The boy sometimes comes to work at Castleton when we are there; but when the big people go back to Owen after the week's work, instead of his going there, where his family can take care of him, he loiters at Castleton for the rest of the week, and only appears at Owen the following Monday; his aunt feeds him whenever he remains with the family, and he sleeps at her house. The overseer does not give him any fish, nor any food, nor does he give any person any time in the week to pay for feeding him. Have seen the busha switch him twice before this time; he switched him for absence, he also placed the collar on his neck before; the first time he had the collar on, I think, about three weeks, but I did not see any chain on him the first time; never saw the busha put the collar on or switch any other boy on the property; is certain that I must have seen the chain had it been on; the boy generally wore the shirt buttoned to hide the collar, and it is possible that I might not have seen the chain.

Abraham Isaacs, Esq., a Magistrate of the parish of St. Ann's; sworn.

I am a magistrate of this parish, and have been present during the examination, by Messrs. Gordon and Daughtrey, of the above-mentioned witnesses; I have seen the boy named John James with the iron collar round his neck; and have only been prevented from handing the case over to the clerk of the peace for this parish, to be forwarded to Her Majesty's Attorney-general, by the determination of Messrs. Gordon and Daughtrey to forward the same to his Excellency the Governor.

Captain T. H. Dillon, Special Magistrate; sworn.

I am acquainted with Mr. Nesbitt; this is the first case of oppression towards his people that I have ever heard of, or has ever come before me; and much as I deprecate the alleged offence, I feel sorry that one whose conduct is generally humane should have so far committed himself. I may add, that Mr. Nesbitt has built an asylum for yaw patients, to prevent the contagion spreading. This asylum is intended for those of free condition as well as apprentices, and has been built at some cost. His attention to the patients is marked by humanity, and, to my knowledge, they are to all appearance progressing towards rapid cure.

TUESDAY, 3 October 1837.

John Wallace, an Apprentice to Owen; sworn.

Knows John James; remembers seeing John James with a collar and chain on sometime ago, put on by the overseer; they were put on because he ran away. The chain was wrapt round his body, and covered with his shirt, so that any body passing by could not see it; he had them on for a fortnight; remembers the collar being put on Monday, last week, by the overseer; he was also switched by the overseer, Mr. Nesbett. Hercules, a boy belonging to Owen, used also to be switched, for running away, by the overseer.

Henry Gray, an apprentice to Owen; sworn.

Knows John James; busha put the collar and chain on before upon John James.

Enclosure 2, in No. 50.

Encl. 2, in No. 50.

William Brown's Case; Apprentice to Mr. Smith, Dry Harbour.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

Taken at *Brown's Town*, in the Parish of *St. Ann's*, in the Case of *William Brown*, an Apprentice to Mr. James Smith, of Dry Harbour.

TUESDAY, 3 October 1837.

Mr. James Smith; sworn.

I HAVE an apprentice named William Brown; he has one blind eye, the other is perfectly good, at all events, in my opinion; he lost one of his eyes in June 1836; he has not done anything for me since April 1836; in June 1836 he fell from the roof of a house about 10 feet high, and his eye became injured and blind from the fall; in falling, his eye, I think, came in contact with a lath; he has never suffered injury from any other fall; he was bled by Dr. S. Tucker immediately after his fall, and was ordered the next day, by Dr. Edward Tucker, to be salivated. I think he is about 55 years of age by the registry returns; he was well taken care of during his sickness; the doctor never told him, in giving him pills at that time, that they should either kill or cure him; but, about four months ago, I gave him six of Morrison's pills myself, No. 2's, which I am in the habit of taking, and I then told him, "Here, you old sinner, take those pills, they will either kill or cure you." In the month of February last, I sent up a gang of carpenters to the back-ground of Trelawny, to erect a new set of sugar-works. I told this man that he had sat down so long, he must go and cook for the others. I was under the impression that he accompanied the other people; but on my return from windward, three weeks after, I found him at my residence; he had not moved. I asked him why he had not gone up with the other people, particularly as a mule-cart had been sent up, in which he might have placed himself; he said he could not see to cook, that there was gravel in his eye (Dr. Edward Tucker has frequently examined his good eye, and he says it is positively good.) I said, "then you must go before Mr. Rawlinson, and see what he can do with you." I took him the next day to Mr. Rawlinson, who told him that, to his knowledge, he had been desired to work five or six months previously, on the opinion of the doctor. Mr. Rawlinson ordered him up to this place to cook for the gang, and told him, if he did not go he would send him to the workhouse; I gave him in charge of one of my apprentices to go up; he stopt there two weeks, and then returned to my residence again, saying that he was sick; I told him, "there is nothing the matter with you, and I won't give you physic;" he went to Mr. Rawlinson, who gave him a note to me, stating, "The bearer says he is sick, you won't give him medicine;" I then gave him the six Morrison's pills before mentioned. Dr. Tucker saw him about six times after taking these pills, and said there was nothing the matter with him, he must go to his work. At last, in the month of June, I brought him before Mr. Rawlinson, to see what I could do with him; he had then been absent two weeks. Mr. Rawlinson asked him if he would go to his work, and why he had left the place where he had been ordered to go and cook; he said, the people would not give him anything to cook, and he was not going to stop there. He received the same allowance there as the other people, to the best of my knowledge; I gave them either 5s. per week, or a quart of flour or rice daily, with salt fish to the deserving. He flatly refused Mr. Rawlinson to go to his work, and he was sentenced to receive 20 or 25 lashes, I forget which. This was on the 15th July, I think, he received the punishment, and came back to my residence the day following; on the 17th I had occasion to go to Trelawny, and left him at my residence; I returned at the end of the week, and found that he had gone away; I did not see him for a couple of weeks after, and I again carried him before Mr. Rawlinson, at Dry Harbour, who asked him if he would not go to work, and do something; he said, No, he could not work; he had no ground, no house, and could not work. I said, "There is plenty of land, and if you will agree to work a ground for yourself, I will not ask you to do anything else;" he said, No, he would not. Mr. Rawlinson remon-

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strated with him for a long time; and he at length said, if I would allow him to go into the blacksmith's shop, and blow the bellows, he would go; this was after he had been threatened to be sent to the workhouse; I refused, as I had plenty of bellows blowers, and his trade was that of a carpenter; I again offered him to work the ground for himself, or go to cook, and he refused. Mr. Rawlinson then sentenced him to the workhouse for one month, but not to be put on the treadmill; it was then about four o'clock A. M., and too late to send him that night to St. Ann's Bay; I was authorized to keep him in confinement that night, and give him food, which I did; I sent him off the next morning about seven o'clock, in charge of one of my own people, who returned about 10 o'clock, and told me that old William was lying down on the road, and would not go; I sent a mule-cart for him, and brought him home. On the following day Dr. Edward Tucker came there, and examined his eye, and asked what was the matter with him, recommending him to take exercise and bitter wood infusion, and that, if he would take that, and go to his work, he would get better immediately; that was the last Saturday in August; and since then I have seen nothing of him until to-day, when I met him with a good load of provisions on his head. On questions from the court Mr. Smith gave the following answers:

William Carr never received any accident to my knowledge, but he was poorly for some time with venereal. He having been cured of venereal, the medicine for the cure of which was administered by myself, he committed a theft and ran away, and was taken up at Berrydale and committed to the workhouse, by Mr. Gaynor, as a runaway. I took him out, but he was not brought before me with handcuffs on. When he came home I wrote to Mr. Rawlinson, who sent me authority to put him in the cage to secure him that night; the next morning he was taken out, but he laid down on the ground, pretending he was sick, and saying he could not walk. I wrote off this to Mr. Rawlinson, who sent back to have him examined by a doctor, and stated that if he pronounced him free of disease, he would send the police for him; the doctor examined him, and stated that he was not ill. I informed Mr. Rawlinson of this, who sent the police for him, and they carried him up; he was tried and sentenced to receive 39 lashes.

WEDNESDAY, 4 October 1837.

William Brown, an Apprentice to Mr. James Smith, apparently between 60 and 70 years of age; sworn.

SOME time ago I tumbled off a house and injured my eye, which got blind afterwards. I am very weak, and not able to work; I have not strength to do anything, and have been quite weakly since the time I got the fall that knocked out my eye. My master told the journeyman to give me the same allowance as the rest of the people if I worked, but the journeyman said I was not able to work; he gave me an axe to work with, but I was not able to work with it, and all the allowance he gave me was a half dollar and a little fish the first week I went there; the second week he gave me four bits and a little fish; then afterwards he gave me three bits, and the last week he told me I could not work, I must go back to Dry Harbour to master, and told him that I was sick, and could not get any medicine; he took me and put me in the cage for a whole day and night, and gave me a little pint of boiled rice; he never gave me anything again, but missis gave me once a quart of flour and a half pint of rice. Massa he turned me out of the yard, and said if I could not work I must go away. I went away, but came back again. Missis is a very good lady, and she told me any time I must come to her and she would give me something, but I must not allow massa to see it. At the time I was flogged I was kept two days without anything to eat, and not being able to get anything from massa, I went away. I remember the time when I fell in the water, massa jumped in the water and took me away. I have not run away from massa, but he drove me away.

Encl. 3, in No. 50.

Enclosure 3, in No. 50.

Prince Brown's Case, an Apprentice to Knapdale.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

Taken at *Brown's Town*, in the Parish of *St. Ann*, in the matter of Complaint made by *Prince Brown*, an Apprentice to Knapdale, in the Parish of *St. Ann*.

WEDNESDAY, 27 September 1837.

Prince Brown, an Apprentice to Knapdale; sworn.

I REMEMBER the time of the trouble of Eliza Osborn and Nancy Webb; I was in the hot-house at the time. I have been locked up in the dungeon many times, and catted on my back several times. Joseph Brown sometimes carried me to the busha, Mr. Clarke, who put me in the dungeon; he also put me there twice without carrying me to busha, who was not at home; and when busha returned, I complained to him, but he drove me away. I was only carried twice to the special magistrate, who sent me to be punished, and would not allow

allow me to say a word for myself. The overseer told the constable, Joseph Brown, that the magistrate had given leave to him to lock people up in the dungeon when he found fault with them, at all times when he, the busha, was absent. I remember on one occasion being locked up on my own days, Saturdays and Sundays, and locked up every night besides for six days; that Joseph Brown, the constable on Knapdale estate, found fault with him, and cursed him in the field, calling him a son of a bitch, a good-for-nothing worthless rogue. I then called out to Bayley, and said, "Do you hear how this man is cursing me without cause?" He then ran up and hit me with the whip over my head and bare back as I was digging cane holes. I had taken my shirt off to do my work; on being struck by Joseph Brown, I could not bear it; I ran up to him, and held the whip that he had in his hand; he then collared me, and I still continued to hold on, when Joseph Brown stooped his head and bit my fingers with his teeth; he always carried the whip with him in the field the same as in old time; it was the same description of whip that was used in the time of slavery, and he used to hit several persons with it; I saw him lick Louisa Thompson with it till she piddled herself. Mr. Clarke knew that he had the whip in the field; he made no secret of it, nor was he compelled to do without it, until after a complaint had been made by the apprentices to the magistrate, Mr. Rawlinson, that Knapdale was the only place in the parish that the whip was used; that Mr. Rawlinson gave orders to leave it off; that Joseph Brown did not use to be hard on any women who were his favourites; he had two wives on the property after the dispute above related. Joseph Brown hailed out to the book-keeper, who ordered him to take me to the dungeon; I was kept locked up till next morning, when Mr. Clarke ordered me to be taken out to be catted; I was afraid of the punishment, and I ran into the cane-piece; I was searched for, found, and brought out, when the constable, named Dennis Munro, catted me; I was not brought up before the magistrate to be tried before I was catted; I did not count the lashes; I was flogged till Munro begged me off himself. After the catting I was put into the field and kept at work, and some time afterwards I was put in the workhouse; after my return I dug one hundred and fifty holes upon one piece, and go on another in my own time. When I asked for my money Mr. Clarke told me, "You took your master's time to sit down in the workhouse, and now you have come back you want money; I will be damned if you shall get any." When Mr. Clarke was going away I went into the overseer's house during his absence, and saw a pair of shoes; I said, "It is very hard for me to lose my money that I have been working for, and I shall take these shoes and keep them till I am paid." When Mr. Clarke returned he missed the shoes, and was told that I had taken them; he taxed me with it, and I denied having them; he threatened me with the dungeon, and I told him I could not help it, that I had dug so many cane holes, and never got paid; he said, "If you mention that word to me again I will knock your brains out." I was then put in the dungeon, but was not brought before the magistrate; I was taken out on the Sunday evening, having been put in at the dinner time on Saturday; I was locked up for a day and a half; the shoes remain with me up to the present moment. When I was in the workhouse I was there 14 days, during which time I was put on the mill twice a day; I kept the step at first, but could not afterwards from weakness, when I was flogged on the back on my old flogging, which was not well; the blood ran down my back, which was always bare when I went on the mill, as they always made the men roll up their trousers and pull their frock off when we set to work. After I was let out I felt very well. I went to work, and in a few days afterwards felt a pain in my stomach, and began to pass nothing but blood downwards. I then went to Mr. Clarke to request him to take me into the hothouse, but he drove me away, and I was so sick that I ran away for two weeks. I then returned, and was examined by Dr. Samuel Tucker, at the request of Mr. Clarke, who sent me to the hothouse. When I was in the workhouse, the boatswains used to flog the people; when they could not step, they would flog both women and men. I saw several piccaniny mothers in the treadmill, particularly a woman named Jane Johnson, belonging to Mr. Gallimore, of Fort George. When the people could not keep step they hung by the mill, and then they were flogged and hung on, being boxed about by the mill as it went round, cutting the shins dreadfully; I was cut myself. As we are at the sea-side working, we used to wash our sores, but we were not sent for that purpose by Mr. Drake. Mr. Drake ordered the boatswain to flog us when we could not keep step. I never saw Mr. Hilton, the clerk of the peace, at the workhouse, nor any white gentleman but Mr. Drake. Did not observe any pregnant women while I was there.

Mr. *Nash*, the present Overseer on Knapdale; sworn.

When I first took charge of the property, on the 23d of June last, found Prince Brown in the hospital; he remained there for a week or two, when he came out, and went to the second gang, where he had never before been employed. I several times told him he must go to the great gang, as I could not allow an able man like him to remain in the second gang. I gave orders twice to the constable to take him to the great gang; he would not go, and has been remaining in the second gang until this day. He said he would not go to the great gang, because he was sick. The doctor prescribed balsam capaivi for him three weeks ago, but made no remark as to his capability to work in the great gang. I told Brown that sooner than he should work in the second gang I would be content for him to remain in the hospital. The reason why he went out of the hothouse was to go to the cane-piece, where I found him eating canes; he had also some provisions with him, and a piece of cane in his basket. I called the constable, William Campbell, to lock him up, as he had been cutting canes; he was locked up, and let out the next morning, when he went to the second gang to work; he remained there till last week; he came and told me that he had fever; I said,

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"I had taken you before in the hothouse, and you would not remain there, but went out and cut canes; I will therefore not receive you into the hothouse again; but as yours is an old complaint, you can come whenever you require medicine, and I will give you what the doctor prescribed, say balsam of capivi." I also gave directions to the doctor-man to furnish him with medicine on his applying for it. He would not go away, but sat down in the millhouse, and I desired the doctor-man, Samuel Barrett, who is also a constable, to take him to his work. The constable came and told me that Prince Brown would not go; I said, "Never mind, let him remain; I dare say the doctor will be here to-day, and he shall look at him." He remained in the millhouse for half a day, after which I did not see any more of him. I took a ride after dinner round one of the most out-of-the-way cane-pieces (it was of fine plants), and came to a handbasket full of pieces of canes, and some yams at the top; it contained also a large bundle of oil-nuts. I got off, and stopped there for near three quarters of an hour. I saw the horse look round very quickly into the canes; I then went up, and shortly after heard a rustling, as if somebody was running through them; I listened to the sound, and ran round in the direction, when I met up Prince Brown, who, as soon as he saw me, turned round and ran into the cane-piece. I followed him some way, but could not catch him, I then gave up the pursuit. I took possession of the basket and its contents, and have not seen anything of him until the present moment. When I got home, I inquired if Prince Brown had a ground; I was told no, that he destroys other people's grounds. I desired Joseph Brown to inquire whether any of the apprentices who had grounds had lost any of their provisions. The next morning a woman named Miller told me that the provisions were hers, and had come out of her ground; she asked for them, but I told her she could not have them till the magistrate had seen them. The pockets of the pennistone cloak were filled with yams.

Thomas Bayley, Constable on Knapdale; sworn.

This affair I recollect; there used to be several disputes between Joseph Brown and Prince Brown; there was a fighting match at one time. I remember Joseph Brown having flogged Prince Brown, but it was before the Mulgrave law. I am positive that the whip was never carried in the field by James Brown since the new law. I think that I first heard of Prince Brown's disease about a year ago, but cannot tell whether he had it before, and hid it. I remember the story of the shoes; and that Prince, during Mr. Clarke's absence, went into the house, took away a pair of shoes, a shirt, and a piece of meat out of the safe; I also remember Prince Brown complaining of not receiving payment for digging cane holes in his own time; he was a very hard-working man, and used to do such work. I also heard the constable, Joseph Brown, say, that the people had dug cane holes, and the busha would not pay them, and that if he went on that way, none of the people would take jobs again. I did not hear the reason stated from anybody why Prince was not paid. I heard also that the busha had refused to pay Frank Stewart, Alick Campbell, and Joseph Brown's own sweetheart, Frances Gordon, for work performed in their own time. I did not hear it from themselves; I can't say whether they ever got paid.

Joseph Brown, Head Constable on Knapdale; sworn.

I never carried a whip in the field since the 1st of August law. I remember the flogging spoken of by Prince Brown, but it was before the new law. I remember the stealing of the shoes and shirt; Prince Brown acknowledged to me that he had taken them, and the overseer ordered me to put him in the bilboes. Prince Brown, Frances Gordon, and Frank Stewart had dug cane holes in their own time, and were owed for their work by Mr. Clarke, who had refused to pay them. I am certain that the cane holes dug by Prince Brown must have been good, but he understood that Mr. Clarke complained that some of the cane holes were not good. I remember being directed by the overseer to desire Prince Brown to go from the second to the first gang, and his refusal to do so. I also remember the basket with the canes and yams, found by Mr. Nash. I am aware that Prince Brown was in the habit of going to other people's grounds; he has no yam-piece of his own. The yams found were said to be the property of an old watchman, who had a small ground near the cane-piece where Prince Brown was observed by Mr. Nash. I remember Prince Brown working his own time at spell-work, but do not think he got paid for it; I do not know whether he got pay or not; I know many who worked that way and got paid; I do not know any who did not get paid, except Prince Brown. I heard the overseer, Mr. Clarke, assign as a reason for not paying Prince Brown, that he, Prince Brown, owed some days to the estate. He has had his disease on him more than a year, but not before Mulgrave law; he did not have it before he went to the workhouse.

Louisa Thompson, Apprentice to Knapdale; sworn.

I remember Joseph Brown's beating me; it was since the new law; he came up and gave me two boxes with his fist, but not with the whip; the blood gushed from my nose and I piddled myself; he also put me in the dungeon several times of his own accord, without orders from Mr. Clarke. I could not keep up with the rest of the gang in work in consequence of deformity in my fingers (which she exhibited). Joseph Brown admitted having given two slaps to Louisa Thompson, which caused her nose to bleed, but that he did not do so under angry feelings; he was only playing with her.

Dennis Munro, an Apprentice to Knapdale; sworn.

I was ordered by Joseph Brown, since the new law, to flog Prince Brown; I have flogged him before the new law, by orders of the overseer. I begged for him when I found he could not take the flogging, and he was let off. I never saw Joseph Brown with a whip in his hand since the new law; he used to carry a walking stick.

THURSDAY, 28 September 1837.

Mr. Clarke, late Overseer on Knapdale; sworn.

I can say nothing too bad of the character of Prince Brown; he is by far the worst man on the property; he has been suffering from venereal upwards of three years; he never would cultivate his own ground, but habitually went about robbing the people's grounds; he also has broken frequently into the works, and robbed rum and sugar therefrom. I am aware that Joseph Brown, at the commencement of the new system, occasionally put some of the people into the dungeon of his own accord, but I put a stop to his doing so. I think there is not a more faithful servant on the property than Joseph Brown; he is rather a bad-tempered man, and I have frequently admonished him, but have been obliged to support him in his authority. One cause of his want of influence over the people is, that he is not a very moral character, and sometimes quarrels with the people who are Baptists and Methodists. As he is not under the influence himself of any religious feelings, I have often myself advised that he should join some religious body, as his doing so would be considerably to his advantage in the management of the people. Thomas Bayley is one of the very best apprentices on the property; he is a very excellent character. I swear most positively that I never stopped a farthing from Prince Brown for digging cane holes, but cannot positively swear to having paid the others, as I remember that some of the holes were not dug properly, and I was obliged to get jobbers to dig them over again. I positively swear that I never took three days from Eliza Osborn after the time of her return from the work-house; I am also certain that I never said that Mr. Rawlinson gave me the authority to lock up persons, as I considered that the law gave me the power. Joseph Brown, when acting as constable, frequently since the new law requested me to relieve him from all authority, as he would be more satisfied to take his hoe and go into the field.

Enclosure 4, in No. 50.

Encl. 4, in No. 50.

Donald Grant's Case; hired to Mr. Smith, of Dry Harbour.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

Taken at *Brown's Town*, in the Parish of *St. Ann*, in the Case of a brown Man named *Donald Grant*, an Apprentice to Mr. Matheson, but hired to Mr. James Smith, of Dry Harbour.

MONDAY, 2 October 1837.

William Clarke, a Constable to Queenhithe; sworn,

I KNEW Donald Grant; Mr. Burbridge, then overseer of Queenhithe, sent for me, and asked whether Grant was at Queenhithe; I told him "Yes;" Mr. Smith, who was there, then told me to go and bring him; I went and brought him, and Mr. Smith asked him where he had been all the time; he said he had gone to town to the governor; he then desired me to put him in the bilboes; I did so; next morning he sent for him and took him down to Dry Harbour, where he was tried by Mr. Rawlinson; he was then sent to Queenhithe to receive 25 lashes; Mr. Smith came up himself, and Mr. Burbridge gave him the liberty to make me tie him; I tied him by the direction of Mr. Burbridge, extending his hands and feet, which were lashed to the gate of the horse stable; I gave him 25 lashes, and after I had finished Mr. Smith gave me a half dollar.

The court here informed the witness that he should not have received the wages offered him; the half dollar offered was the price of blood, and he should sooner have given up his constable's office than consent to inflict such a punishment on his fellow creature, when it was not a part of his duty to do so.

William Clarke in continuation. When I was going to flog Grant, Mr. Smith told me to lay it well on, but I did not do so as his flesh was weak, and every knot on the cut was a bump as big as my finger, and whaled the flesh; his back bled after I was done, and was much swelled. Mr. Rawlinson came up after the flogging; he looked at the back, and said that he must be taken back to Dry Harbour to his work immediately; Mr. Rawlinson then sent me for Grant's woman that he lived with, and asked her if she knew the law for keeping a gentleman's apprentice in her house; he did not make me swear that I had taken the man out of Julian Taylor's house; the woman said, "Grant is a free man;" Mr. Rawlinson said, "He is not;" and he said, "If you don't shut your mouth I'll make you pay all the days which Grant has lost," the woman said, "Sir, I won't pay anything of the sort; you must send me to St. Ann's, where the law is;" Mr. Rawlinson then desired her to be taken to her work, and in a half hour after he sent for me he gave me a paper to give to George

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Clarke to carry her (Julian Taylor) to the house of correction. George Clarke then carried her. Donald Grant was a healthy man; he did not use to skulk at Queenhithe, but he used to go and come to see his wife.

Julian Taylor, an Apprentice to Queenhithe; sworn.

I know Donald Grant; I used to live with him; he was taken up at Queenhithe after coming from the Governor, and carried to Dry Harbour and tried; he was sent back to Queenhithe to be flogged; he was flogged at the horse stable after being tied to the gate; I did not see the flogging; he was flogged very severe; I saw him after the flogging, but I had not the power to dress his back; I did not see him after it, immediately after he was flogged. Mr. Rawlinson sent for me; on going before him he asked me what right I had to harbour Mr. Smith's apprentice; I told him that he was not an apprentice, that he was free; he said he was not, and would make me pay for harbouring him; he said if I did not pay for the time that Grant took to go to town, that he would send me to the tread-mill; he then turned to Mr. Burbridge and said, "You must keep a good count upon this girl, and see that she pays the time lost by Grant;" I told him that Grant was seeking for his rights, and I had not lost any of my owner's time; how then could I be called upon to pay for him when he was seeking for his rights? he then sentenced me to hard labour and the tread-mill for 10 days; no witness was sworn against me; when I was in the workhouse Grant came to see me; he looked quite sick, and I looked at his back; there was no dressing upon it; and when I went to lift the cloth that covered his back it stuck to the back like a plaster; I saw the back, and it looked quite black and smelt bad; he said that he felt a pain about his heart, and his hands were quite helpless to him; when he left me he did so for the purpose of going again to the Governor; when he was taken up at my house he had been in there two days; when he came from town after leaving me at St. Ann's Bay workhouse, he told me that he brought a paper from the Governor to Mr. Rawlinson, who, when he took the paper, said, "This man has gone to Governor a second time;" he then took him and sent him down to Mr. Smith, who had him put in the cage at Dry Harbour; they afterwards took him out of the cage and carried him up to Inverness, and I never saw anything more of him; he died at Inverness; I heard of his death after he had been buried; I was on the tread-mill twice a day when in St. Ann's house of correction; my shins were cut up, and I have had pains in my skin ever since.

George French, an Apprentice and a Constable at Queenhithe; sworn.

I was close by the horse stable when Donald Grant was brought up for punishment; he was tied to the horse stable and was catted by William Clarke; he got a severe catting; Mr. Smith stood close by to Clarke, and saw Clarke lay the lashes on; neither Mr. Rawlinson nor Mr. Burbridge were by; they were both in the house; the back was bleeding. Mr. Alloway, a minister, rode by; he came up and asked what the man had done; he saw him when they were carrying him to Dry Harbour; his back was bare; I know nothing of him since then; he died at Inverness. With regard to Julian Taylor, since she returned from the workhouse she has never been able to work in the field; she is constantly in the hospital; but before then she was an active working woman; she sometimes, like all women, forgot herself and made her tongue go, but she is, generally speaking, a good woman; she is now a patient of the hospital. Dr. Johnson is the doctor of Queenhithe.

TUESDAY, 3 October 1837.

Mr. James Matheson, the Proprietor of a Gang of Masons.

I knew Donald Grant; he was the property of my father, and became, after his death, the property of his legatees, of whom I am one; he had but one leg; he died at Inverness in the hospital after a long sickness. His back had perfectly recovered from the flogging which he received, and my opinion is, that he died from exposure, occasioned by his own fault, after he received the flogging, but I don't think that he died from the effects of the flogging. I heard of the claim which he set up to freedom, and I sent up myself an affidavit to the King's House (through Mr. Rawlinson) that I had known the mother of Grant as a slave on Inverness, and had known him constantly working there as such, until I hired him as a mason, when I was building the chapel at Rio Bueno. After he left me, he went to Mr. Smith by his own wish, stating that he would not return to the mountains; he received his usual allowance which he had when with me, and he went away twice to the King's House since the apprenticeship to claim his freedom. I believe he was remonstrated with for so doing, but he still continued to absent himself. The subject of his freedom was tried at St. Ann's Bay, but I do not know by what court. I consider that his death was caused by frequent walkings at night, and exposing himself; he had every attention paid to him during his sickness, and was attended by Dr. Wilson. Whenever I was at the place, I sent him nourishment myself, and he always got it regularly. He was a man between 40 and 45 years of age, and was very active and industrious, until he took the notion of freedom in his head. His sister claimed her freedom at St. Ann's Bay, and, failing to establish it, ran away. She has been away about 10 years, and by her having taken her freedom, I suppose he thought he had a right to it too.

Mr. *James Smith*; sworn.

I knew Donald Grant; he often took a day or two; he was away for 66 days, during which time he brought two notes from Mr. Rawlinson. I understood that he was harboured at Queenhithe by the woman he lived with. I wrote a note to Mr. Burbridge, in his capacity as a magistrate, who sent one of his constables, who took him out of the house. Mr. Burbridge kept him in confinement till Monday. I sent one of my people, who brought him from Queenhithe home, and I also sent a message to Mr. Rawlinson, who authorized me to keep him in confinement till he came down, and to feed him. He was only confined at nights, and was at liberty during the day. I took him to Concord on the Wednesday morning, where I met Mr. Rawlinson, who asked why he had not returned to his work after he had given him the note? He said, that he had been to the Governor a second time, and had only returned the week previous. Mr. Rawlinson asked him, if he had brought another note from Mr. Hill or the Governor? He replied, "No;" that he had gone to Highgate, and that the Governor sent him down to Mr. Hill, who drove him away, saying, that he had got a letter already. Mr. Rawlinson said "I don't believe you have been there this time, or you would have got a letter from Mr. Hill; you have been lurking about Queenhithe negro-houses." Mr. Rawlinson then asked him if he would go back to his work? He said, "No," that he was a free man. Mr. Rawlinson said, "I have examined the woman who you said could establish your freedom, and she said she knows nothing at all about you, and if you don't go back to your work, I shall be under the necessity of punishing you." He again said that he would not. Mr. Rawlinson then ordered him to receive 25 lashes, and to repay 20 days for the time lost. The sentence is now in my possession; he was punished by a constable at Queenhithe, at the desire of Mr. Rawlinson, who said that it would be some inconvenience to me to send him to the police-station for punishment. Mr. Rawlinson was at Queenhithe when the punishment was inflicted. Immediately after receiving the punishment he put on his shirt and walked to my residence, about a mile and a half distant from the property, and where he remained a week doing nothing. I saw his back distended every day by my servants, with sweet-oil and linen. As soon as he felt himself pretty well, after stopping about a week, he went away again. In about two weeks after that, Mr. Rawlinson brought him to me at Dry Harbour, and said, "Mr. Smith, I brought Donald Grant to you, who declares that he will not return to his work, and I think the best thing you can do is to send him back to Inverness, and have nothing more to do with him." I told Mr. Rawlinson that that would be holding out a bad example to the other people, as they might serve me the same way. I then asked Grant (whom I had not yet seen) whether he would go back to his work? He said, No, he would rather have a brace of balls through him. I said, "Very well, I'll give you a note, and send you home by one of my own people;" and I did so, and have not seen him since. He mentioned, after being asked where he had been to for the last two weeks, that he had been again to the Governor; he was then quite well; he had been working with me for four or five years; he drank a great deal, and lived principally upon tobacco and rum; I saw no difference in his apparent state of health when he last returned to me.

Mr. *William Matheson*; sworn.

I knew Donald Grant; he was returned to me at Inverness by Mr. Smith, in very good health; he was brought home one evening late; I put him in confinement that night, and the next morning remonstrated with him about his conduct; I found out that he had been with the Governor at Greenwich-park; he has an excellent family on the property, and I gave him a week to look about him; I then sent him to repair stone walls; he came and complained of having nothing to eat, which entirely arose from his long absence from the property; I gave him a dollar, which he promised to repay by working in his own time; he did not work after that, but went to the hothouse; he absented himself, as I have been told, for some time, having gone to Falmouth; on his return, he complained of sickness; he was attended to by the doctor; he received nourishment, and died, as I suppose, from his continual wanderings.

Dr. *Barnett*; sworn.

I saw Donald Grant some time before his death, in the hospital at Inverness; I prescribed for him; he appeared rather bloated, and received every attention on the property.

Enclosure 5, in No. 50.

Encl. 5, in No. 50.

Susannah Carter's Case; an Apprentice to Home Castle.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

Taken at *Brown's Town*, in the Parish of *St. Ann*, in a matter of Complaint made by *Susannah Carter*, of Home Castle, in the Parish of *St. Ann*.

TUESDAY, 3 October 1837.

Susannah Carter, an Apprentice to Home Castle; sworn.

I WAS sent to the workhouse with Sarah Reid, Ann Clarke, and Louisa Brown. Sarah Reid had a young child. I tried to dance the treadmill, but I could not keep step, and I

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constantly hung by the straps with my feet knocking against the wheel (this woman exhibited her legs, which had marks of sores, occasioned by the treadmill). I was never catted, but Sarah Reid was. I danced the mill twice a day, morning and evening. Never saw the boatswain or the drivers call any of the women to come to them. I was not required to do any work on the Sunday. Mr. Drake was then dead. They kept the chain and the collar on on the Sunday, and I slept with my feet in the shackles. At first we worked on the eight-hour system; after that it was changed to the nine; then again we were put on the eight-hour, and we felt hard. One Friday we drew off, when we heard our neighbour's shell-blow, and went to Brown's Town to complain. We only saw Mr. Isaacs, who told us to come back, and on Saturday we would see Mr. Rawlinson. We all returned on Saturday. Mr. Rawlinson heard our story, and told us that he could not pass the overseer's word, and that we must work the Friday. On the following Friday, when we heard the neighbour's shell-blow at 10 o'clock, we all drew off and left the field. On the following Tuesday Mr. Rawlinson came to Home Castle, and ordered us to pay two Saturdays. On going the other people were tattling and making a noise; I was not, having gone another way by myself. I was called back by Mr. Rawlinson with the other people, and on exclaiming "Why?" Mr. Shelly, the book-keeper, laid hold of me, and put me in the dungeon along with the others. Mr. Rawlinson sent us to the workhouse for 10 days, but we were let out on the eighth day. When they came home they were made to work the two Saturdays, according to the first sentence, and one other for the Saturday they lost in the workhouse. I have five children, and during my absence they all wandered about. Mr. Fairweather was present on the Saturday we came to Mr. Rawlinson, at Brown's Town. On the magistrate's telling us that he could not pass busha's word, I admit that we all join in declaring that we would take the half Friday. On the Tuesday following Mr. Rawlinson called us all and committed us for two Saturdays.

Sarah Reid, an Apprentice to Home Castle; sworn.

On the Tuesday following the Saturday that we came to Brown's Town Mr. Rawlinson came to Home Castle, and called us all up and committed us for two Saturdays; after turning us away, and we were going along, the overseer said to the constable, Henry Gordon, "If you can get a hold to send to St. Ann's." The constable then laid hold of Ann Clarke. I did not hear what he said. I took Ann Clarke by the arm, and said, "We are all going to die for the half Friday." Mr. Shelly then seized me and put me in the dungeon. After being confined for a short time I was taken before Mr. Rawlinson, who sentenced me to the house of correction for 10 days, without hearing a word in my defence. I carried a sucking child there, and was obliged to leave it in the yard when I was placed on the mill, which was twice a day. I could not keep step the first day, and hung on the mill; I was then flogged on my feet. Two of my sisters were sent at the same time.

Mary Ann Bowerbank, an Apprentice to Home Castle; sworn.

I recollect the 1st of August last year; part of the people went to work and part took the day. I was at Dunbarton, where the day was given, and believing it to be a holiday, I went to the river to be baptized. The overseer never said anything to me for taking the 1st of August. One Friday, when I was making a limekiln close to my ground, busha said, "What right had the man there?" I replied, that as he was married to me he had liberty to labour for me. For this we were put in separate dungeons that night, and let out next morning, when we came to Mr. Rawlinson at Brown's Town, but got no redress. Some time after this I went upon spell at four o'clock in the morning feeding mill, and worked till after shell turn-in; the afternoon, while upon my work, I was singing psalms. When Mr. Rawlinson next came busha took me up to him, and said that he heard me singing psalms, and that he would never be satisfied unless he got me punished. Mr. Rawlinson then said, he would send me to learn to sing psalms on the treadmill. For this I was sent to the workhouse for 10 days to dance the mill four times a day; but when I got there the people saw that I was not able, and they only put me on three times a day. When I came from St. Ann's my husband was obliged to carry me to the hospital; I was so sick I took some salts, after being bled. After getting a little better I went to the overseer to ask him to put me to light work; he refused; and on my saying I was unable to go to the field, he called the constable, and put me in a horse and cart and took me to the field and threw me on the ground. The constable who drove the cart is named Angus Morrison. I was not able to work, and I laid down on the ground till night. I was taken there after buckra breakfast. Next day I went to the hothouse, but buckra would not take me; I was obliged to creep to the field, where I kept doing a little behind the gang, till I gradually got better.

Eliza Morrison, an Apprentice to Darnock; sworn.

I was in the workhouse for a week and a half, and danced the treadmill twice a day. I was called by Thomas White, the boatswain, and went to him three nights; I slept in his room instead of being locked up with the rest of the women. I was never flogged on the mill, but was worked the same as the rest of the people. I bruised my shins a little the first day, no too much. The chain was taken off when my sister went to the driver and I to the boatswain. Thomas White sent a young woman to call me. I said, "No." He sent the young woman back again. I then went to the young woman's room, where the boatswain was. He then laid hold of me and carried me to his own room. I did not want to go, and I pulled

I pulled back. The driver's wife, Elizabeth Ward, came to call me. If I did not go, perhaps Thomas White would have made me dance more than the rest.

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Enclosure 6, in No. 50.

Encl. 6, in No. 50.

Amaryllis Gale's Case.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

Taken at *Brown's Town* in the Parish of *St. Ann*, respecting an Apprenticed Labourer to Dunbarton Estate, named *Amaryllis Gale*.

SATURDAY, 30 September 1837.

Amaryllis Gale, an Apprentice to Dunbarton, whose appearance indicates the age of 50 years; sworn.

I AM the mother of ten children; nine are at work on the property, and one of them is free; I am working in the yard, cleaning up dung and doing other light work. I went to Mr. Rawlinson on one occasion to beg him for a paper to busha to give me a little time to look for victuals for my children; I took all of my ten children to show him; he gave me a paper, and I carried it to Mr. Mallett, the busha; busha told me that the magistrate could not give me leave to sit down, that Mr. Hamilton Brown, the attorney, was the only person who could do it; I went away, and on the following Sunday I was sent to Rio Bueno to mind my son-in-law, who was sick there. I returned on Tuesday, and on Wednesday the busha sent Alexander Lynch to me to say that if I did not go to my work he would lock me up. The half of every Friday is given to me, and on the other days I do not turn out till after the busha's breakfast time; we are working the nine-hours' system. When I received the message, I went to busha and said, "How can you say you will lock me up when you know that I went to the magistrate?" he replied, "I shall make you know that I am a busha on Dunbarton;" he then had me locked up in the dungeon; I was put in on the Wednesday at Negro breakfast time and kept in till Thursday the same time; after being let out busha said, "Go to your work." I told him, "If you will give my little piccaninny free that you cheat me out of, I will go to my work." I also told him I must go to my house for victuals. On Friday I went to my ground, busha passed me, and then sent back a boy who was following him to tell me that I must pay back the day I took to go to Rio Bueno, to mind my son-in-law Edward Lewis; I told the boy, "Hi! busha must like me for time; him can't carry me to Brown's Town to marry, because I am married already." I also said he is always cursing me, for about a month ago he met me on the path and abused me in a most shameful manner, calling me all sorts of bad names. I came home at night; four of my piccaninnies were in the house; I then went to one of the houses on the property where a prayer meeting was, and while I was there two of the constables, Alexander Lynch and Adolphus Redwar, came inside and called me, but they did not make any noise. They told me that busha wanted me; I did not make any hesitation, but went; I asked them what busha wanted; they said they did not know; I then said, "If it is to be locked up, I have not had anything to-day, except a pint of rice which my son Edward Fearon gave me, and which I divided among seven of us." When I went up busha said, "What sort of a message was that you sent me to-day?" he asked if it was a challenge I sent to him to go to Brown's Town to the magistrate; he called the boy up, and he repeated what I told him; busha then ordered me to be locked up. I said, "Is it for such a simple thing you lock me up?" I told him I was only making fun, that I had not anything to eat, and that he must let me go to my house to take my cloak; he said no, that I must go to the dungeon. I then told the constables who had charge of me that they must let me go to my house to give my children something, as they had not had anything to eat; they said no, they could not. I felt very weak and I sat down, when Adolphus Redwar took me by the waist and Alexander Lynch had hold of my two feet; I hailed out, "I am quite hungry; are you going to kill me?" the constables then dragged me along, and in doing so I struggled, and my petticoat turned up and exposed my person in a most shocking manner; my son Edward Fearon came up at this moment and cried out, "Oh! see what you are doing to my mother;" he then called out to Patience Lawrence and Cornelia Whitehorse to come and witness what they were doing to me; he said also to the constables, "My mother is a married woman; see what you are doing to her; the busha ordered you to put her in the dungeon but not to turn up her clothes in that manner." I was then still dragged and put into the dungeon: this was on the Friday night. On the Saturday I was let out and carried to Brown's Town before Mr. Rawlinson; I told him all they did to me and showed him my shift how they tore it up; Mr. Rawlinson said, "That is right;" he then ordered me back to the dungeon to be locked up for the balance of the Saturday and the next day, Sunday. On Monday I was let out and went to my work; before the prentice law I never did any work; I was allowed to sit down at home and take care of my children. Busha used to give me fish with the other apprentices, when they got it; he used to find me sitting down often when I was sent to work, as I was weak and not able to work from sun up to sun down.

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Question by the Court, at suggestion of Mr. Mallett.] Had not the overseer occasion to send for you one day this week from the Negro-house to go to your work?—*Answer*.—My daughter had a child, and as she (my daughter) was subject to fits, I went to the busha to ask to have the child weaned; he told me that I must take the child and wean it, and that I must work at the same time. I carried the child to wean it, and used to go to my work. I worked on the Monday and Tuesday in the yard; on the Wednesday the breeze and rain was so great that I could not come out with the child; on the Thursday, just as I was ready to come out to go to work busha sent a boy to call me; I went; before he sent to call me I was just going to work, at the same hour as I always used to go. Busha has sent down to call me because I did not turn out the day before; he did not quarrel with me for not turning out on the day before.

In reply to a question from the Court, Mr. Mallet said that on no part of the Wednesday did he expect Amaryllis Gale to turn out, as the weather was too inclement for her to do so.

Q. Were any of your piccaninnies ever fed by your busha?—*A.* Yes; the little free one named Nancy used to go to the busha's house, but since this affair he has turned her away.

Q. Did you ever speak to your busha about the child who you state was cheated out of her freedom?—*A.* Yes; I went to busha on the 1st of August, him and the special magistrate, Mr. Connor, were there, and after they looked into a book, they told me that the child was not free.

Q. When you was put into the dungeon from Wednesday to Thursday morning, did anybody come to you?—*A.* Yes; my husband came and brought me something to eat; busha did not send me anything; my son, Edward Fearon, was put in the dungeon with me at the time I was exposed. The third time that I was put in was after I had been tried at Brown's Town; busha then sent me some rice; nobody but my husband ever brought anything to me until then. I was confined twice in one week before I was carried to the magistrate; I was put in on the Wednesday and let out on Thursday; the next time I was put in the Friday evening, and carried to the magistrate on the Saturday; I am certain that the book-keeper did not bring me anything to eat until the Saturday that I was put in when I returned from Brown's Town; I was sentenced to be looked up from Saturday till the Monday morning, and on the Saturday and Sunday busha sent me some rice and herrings.

Mr. *Mallett*, Overseer on Dunbarton; sworn.

I put Amaryllis Gale into the dungeon the first time in consequence of her refusal to work; I put her in the second time in consequence of her impertinent message; I also put her there to secure her, in order that I might bring her before the magistrate the next day. The charge brought against her before the magistrate was refusal to work. I should think it likely that I mentioned the two imprisonments previously to my preferring the charge to Mr. Rawlinson, but I am not certain. I do not think that I have a right to imprison persons twice on one offence before bringing them to the special magistrate, but I consider that on a second offence being committed, I have a right again to imprison. Had Amaryllis Gale not been impertinent, I don't think that I would have put her in the dungeon the second evening, but have waited until the magistrate visited the property. She is 47 years of age by the estate's books. I do not remember that Mr. Rawlinson exclaimed, "that is right," when Amaryllis Gale complained of the constables having torn her shift; I should think that so remarkable an expression would not escape my recollection had it been made, particularly as I sat very close to Mr. Rawlinson at the time of trial. I am positive that when she was put in the dungeon on the Wednesday evening that I sent Mr. Moore, the book-keeper, to ask if she would go to her work and be liberated, and that Mr. Moore returned, saying that she refused, alleging something about her child being free first.

Q. Did anybody tell you that you was free, and could not be made to work, nor be locked up for refusing, &c.?—*A.* No, sir; nobody ever told me so.

Mr. *John Moore*, Book-keeper on Dunbarton; sworn.

I remember when Amaryllis Gale was put in the dungeon first time; it was exactly at 11 o'clock on Wednesday morning; Mr. Mallet sent me there about two or three hours after, to ask if she would come out and go to work, and let the matter rest. She said, "Unless they give my child free I will do no more work for Dunbarton." I gave Eleanor Richardson, the cook, a pint of rice and a herring for her, which was cooked and given to her; I was present in the afternoon when this was done. I had directions from my overseer to be very particular about the time she was kept in the dungeon, as he did not wish her to be kept in even to the full extent of the 24 hours. With regard to food, Mr. Mallett told me to be very particular about the quantity, and that I must not confine myself to a pint, but give more if it was necessary.

Amaryllis Gale, on being recalled, admitted that she had two feeds of rice on the Sunday, but positively insisted that nothing was given to her by anybody else but her husband until the Saturday of her return from Brown's Town.

Edward Fearon, an apprentice to Dunbarton; sworn.

Amaryllis Gale is my mother. One Friday night I was at my house, and heard her bawling out; after I heard her, I went to see what was the matter. Alexander Lynch held her two feet, and Adolphus Redwar held her round her waist; I hailed out to them and said, "Do you see how you ill-treat my mother?" I called out for witnesses, and Venus Redwar, Cornelia,

Cornelia Whitehouse, and Patience Lawrence came up. As I kept hailing out for witnesses to see how my mother was used, the book-keeper desired me to hold my tongue, or he would put me in the dungeon. I said, "No, sir, I don't see what I have done to be put in the dungeon;" and I then walked off. In my way to my house I met Adolphus Redwar, who came and laid hold me; I do not know whether the book-keeper sent him. He called out for Alexander Lynch to assist him; I still refused to go, and the book-keeper said to me, "Edward, go to your overseer." I thought the overseer would look well into the matter before he would send me into the dungeon; but when I went up, he said, "Ay, it is such a fellow as you I want." He then said, "Put him in the dungeon, to be taken to Brown's Town in the morning." When I went out of the gate, I said I would not go into the dungeon until I went to the house to get something to eat for my mother's little children and put them to bed, as there was nobody else to do it; I said that I would go to the dungeon, if they would allow me to do that. The book-keeper said, "Go on, and I will let them fetch some supper for you." I was then put into the dungeon with my mother, and kept there the whole night. No supper was sent to me at all; I got nothing to eat that night, although my supper was ready for me in the house; I had left it there to go and seek after my mother. After I was put in the dungeon, I was ashamed to lay down alongside my mother, and went and sat down in the corner. She told me, "Never mind, my child, come and lay down." We both slept upon one cabin. The next morning, after breakfast, we were taken out by the constable, and carried before Mr. Rawlinson at Brown's Town. I asked him, after being tried, to be allowed to speak; he said "Yes." When I related my story to him, he told me that I had no right to interfere with the orders given on the property. I told him that I did not interfere; that if I had advised my mother not to go into the dungeon, then I should have interfered, but all that I did was to call witnesses to see the manner in which she was dealt with. Mr. Rawlinson then said to me, "Hold your tongue." Mr. Hamilton Brown, the trustee for Dunbarton, was sitting with him, and he turned to him and said, "What is your opinion?" Mr. Brown said, "They should be punished, or they will do worse the next time." I was sentenced to receive 20 lashes by the cat, to be given by the police. I was carried to the police station, and received the flogging; one policeman catted me. I was troubled with such a pain in my stomach after receiving the flogging, that I could scarcely walk. On my way back to Dunbarton, I called at the Baptist chapel, and begged for a little camphor and water, which I got and drank. I stopped a little while, and then went to Dunbarton. When I went to work the next morning, the overseer said to me, "Well, Master Edward, you see what you have brought yourself to?" I said I could not help it; this is laid down for many men as well as me. I went to work, but I could not cut canes; I tried all that I could, and as I found that I could not cut, I began to tie up canes in bundles. On Tuesday I felt worse, and I was not able to work at all; my back and my stomach pained me severely. I then went and told the overseer that I was not able to do anything. He replied, "If you don't go to your work, I'll lock you up in the dungeon." I went to the hospital, and was sitting down leaning against the wall, when Alexander Lynch came and told me that the overseer had ordered him to lock me up in the dungeon; this was Tuesday, before breakfast. I went, and was locked up. After breakfast Dr. Edward Tucker came, and on seeing my back, ordered a plaster to be put on it. I was carried from the dungeon up to the busha's steps for the doctor to see me. The plaster covered the whole of my back. Before the doctor saw my back, the overseer looked at it and said, "They did not miss their mark." After the plaster was put on, I was sent again to the hospital, and locked up every night. I was there till the next Tuesday, when the overseer ordered me out to work. The doctor had not seen me again. I went and got my mother to wash the wound and dress it, and on my way back I met the overseer coming from the field: this was before breakfast. He said, "I won't be bothered in this kind of way; you must turn back and go to the dungeon." I did not speak to him at all, but went straight back to the dungeon, and was locked up by Robert Williams, a constable. I was kept there until after breakfast, when the doctor came again, and I was carried to the steps, where he saw the back and ordered the same kind of plaster to be put to it as before; I then went again to the hospital; this was on Tuesday. I remained in the hospital until the next Monday, when the doctor-woman examined the wound and dressed it; it was then getting better quite fast. I said I would go to work, but as I could not hold the hoe, they must put me to light work. I went to the overseer and told him so. He replied, "Go to the driver, and he will show you what to do." I went to Alexander Redwar, the driver, and he told me I must pick up all the cane-plants and stick them on the banks, and after doing that I must go and trim the fences with the other men. Richard White and James Brown received the same punishment I did and at the same time. I did not try to hinder the constables from taking my mother to the dungeon; I only stood and called for witnesses. I did not ask the book-keeper to put my mother and Susan White together. I think they must have known whether it was right to do so, and as they did not do it, I did not ask them. No blows passed at the time they were carrying my mother to the dungeon.

Mr. Moore, recalled.

On the night that Edward Fearon was put into the dungeon I was called by the overseer, who desired me to lock up Amaryllis Gale, his mother; she went away well for a few yards, and then sat down, crying out that she was hungry. Edward Fearon ran up from the Negro yard up to the overseer's yard, where the constables had his mother; he told them that they must not ill-use his mother, and called for witnesses to see what the constables were doing.

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I called him on one side, and said, "Edward, I would not like to see you get into trouble, you had better go away." He did not go, and there continued to be a great noise in the yard; in the course of a little time there could not have been less than 40 or 50 people present. As the noise increased, and Amaryllis Gale would not go to the dungeon, I ordered Adolphus Redwar either to lock up Edward Fearon or carry him to the overseer; Amaryllis was locked up after much struggling; and while Adolphus Redwar was going up to Edward Fearon, Robert White came up, and said to Fearon, "Go home, and I'll be a witness for you." I went up myself to Fearon, and said very civilly, "Well, Edward, if you don't want to go to the lock-up, go to the overseer;" he said he would; he went very quietly. I went to the overseer, and told him that all the noise about the place was apparently caused by persons who had been called by Edward Fearon to witness the usage of his mother. The overseer ordered him to be put into the dungeon by the constables, saying, he would see if such an interference was to be allowed, and such a noise made at such an hour of the night; it was about half past nine. I told the overseer I considered Edward Fearon to blame for the disturbance. I did not hear anything very particular pass between them. To my knowledge I did not hear the overseer say, "It is such a man as you I want." If he had made such a remark, I think that I must have heard it. I came to Brown's Town at the time that Edward Fearon and Amaryllis Gale were brought before Mr. Rawlinson. I did not hear any particular remark made by Mr. Rawlinson to Mr. Brown, for as soon as I gave my evidence I went aside. Edward Fearon was nearer to Mr. Rawlinson than I was. I saw Edward Fearon's back on the Monday after he came home; it was cut a little; I should say that it would have prevented his holding his hoe for a couple of days; say two or three days. I heard that he was seen by the doctor on the Tuesday morning; I have no personal knowledge of his getting a plaster for his back, or of his having been seen by the doctor; I observed, however, on the Saturday, in the hothouse book, that the doctor had prescribed Turner's cerate, with the direction that he might resume work in the following week; on the same morning that I saw this entry in the hothouse book, I saw the doctor-woman applying a plaster to the back of one of the people; I am not positive which one it was.

Adolphus Redwar, a Constable in Dunbarton; sworn.

I remember when Amaryllis Gale was put into the dungeon; I was sent for her; she came willingly, and had some talk with the busha, who ordered me to carry her. She moved off, and when she got to the house corner she stood up; I told her she must go, but she till sat down; I then held her under arms, and Alexander Lynch held her feet, and we raised them up. While we were carrying her, Edward Fearon came up, and said, "You see what you are doing with my mother." Several people came up to the place, as well as Mr. Moore, the book-keeper. We were not using any force to Amaryllis Gale, but she was hard to go into the dungeon; I did not see her petticoat lifted up; I did not hear exactly what Edward Fearon said, but there was a great noise; I was so confused that I could not see any person but Edward Fearon; he made a great noise. After putting Amaryllis Gale into the dungeon, the book-keeper ordered me to take Edward Fearon to the busha; I took him up, and received orders to lock him up; he was very stubborn, and as Alexander Lynch came up, he and the book-keeper and myself carried him, and locked him in the dungeon. I know Robert White; he was with Edward Fearon the same night; when I laid hold of Fearon by book-keeper's orders, Richard White came and tapped him on the shoulder, saying, "Go into your house, and I will be a witness for you." When I took Fearon to the busha, he ordered me to lock him up. Next morning busha ordered me to take Richard White, Susan White, Edward Fearon, and Amaryllis Gale to Brown's Town to the magistrate, also to take James Brown for not doing his work; James Brown was complained against for not keeping up his row, and when I told him that he ought to do better, he bawled after me and said, "He could not work any more than he was working." I told him, "That is impudence;" and I said, "If you don't carry on your work better than you are doing now, I will lock you up at shell-blow." Mr. Moore said, "If you pass this over, it shan't pass me." He then pulled out a paper, and put it down. I took him up at shell-blow, and told what had passed. He was locked up by busha's orders, and when the other people were taken to the magistrate, he was carried also. Richard White was tried for Edward Fearon's business, and was sentenced to receive 20 lashes; Edward Fearon was tried for what he did that night, and was sentenced to receive 20 lashes; James Brown was tried for insolence and not working good in the field, and he got 20 lashes; and Amaryllis Gale was sent back to the dungeon. I do not know when the men were flogged. At the time that I put Amaryllis Gale in the dungeon, Edward Fearon was between the gate and the dungeon talking with Richard White; he had not moved from the place; when I went to lay hold of Fearon, Richard White first told him, "Go to the dungeon, you won't get wrong." I had hold of Fearon's hand when White told him "I will be a witness for you." I never told Mr. Mallett that Richard White said, "Go to your dungeon, and I will be a witness for you."

Richard White, an Apprentice to Dunbarton; sworn.

I remember hearing a noise, and when I came out I saw Edward Fearon, who told me that his mother was sent to the dungeon; I told him to go home quietly to his house; the constable came up, collared Edward Fearon, and I told him, "Don't strike the constable, and I will be a witness for you." I also said, "Go to the dungeon, you can't get wrong." The book-keeper desired me to hold my tongue or I should go to the dungeon myself. I stood up till Fearon was put in the dungeon, and the book-keeper said, "Richard White

you

"you must go to Brown's Town to-morrow." The constable also told me in the morning, and I went to the overseer and asked him; he said he had told the constable what to do; that I had been making a noise in the yard when I had no business there, and that I must have been setting Fearon on. I was taken to Brown's Town to be tried, and was sentenced to receive 20 lashes. Mr. Hamilton Brown, the trustee for Dunbarton, was sitting at the same table with Mr. Rawlinson. Mr. Rawlinson asked him, "What is your opinion." Mr. Brown said, "Correct them;" the magistrate then sentenced Fearon and myself to receive 20 lashes each. William Redwar was tried, but was not sentenced to be flogged; I wanted to tell the magistrate that I did not go to the yard for any harm, but to keep the peace; he would not hear me, and made the police drag me out. Mr. Brown did not beg for any of us; William Redwar was let off, as the busha gave him a good character.

Mr. John Mallett, recalled.

On the night in question I was informed by the book-keeper and the constable, Adolphus Redwar, that Richard White was the cause of Edward Fearon's refusing to go to the dungeon; the book-keeper first said that he considered Richard White as the cause of all the uproar. Richard White has not been long at Dunbarton; he was a servant to a gentleman in Spanish Town, I believe the Rev. Mr. Bowerbank. Richard White was sent to me in January last by Mr. Turner, and brought the letter I now hold in my hand, of which the following is an extract: "I send you Richard, belonging to Dunbarton; he is sent home for insolence and general bad conduct, and I fear he is likely to prove of more trouble than profit to you."

Mr. Henry R. Grey, Postmaster at Brown's Town; sworn.

Question at request of Mr. Mallett.] Did you ever see me at the special magistrates court beg off any person from punishment?—*Answer.* Yes; George Newell was begged off a flogging by you, which he was sentenced to by Mr. Rawlinson.

James Brown, an Apprentice to Dunbarton; sworn.

We were working in the cane-piece, and the driver said I was not doing good work; I said I was, and he said I was not; I then said my strength would not allow me to do more; we were all working in the same row. The driver, Adolphus Redwar, sent me to the dungeon at shell-blow, and kept me there till dark, when the book-keeper came and let me out, when I made the remark I did to the driver; the book-keeper said, "If you will take that, I won't;" he then took his book and wrote in it. Mr. Rawlinson came to the property twice afterwards and I was not taken up to him; but about six weeks afterwards, or two months, I was taken up and put in the dungeon with Edward Fearon and his mother, and tried for the old fault found of me of not doing good work; the magistrate sentenced me to receive 20 lashes, which were given to me by the police; my back was dreadfully cut up, and is not well yet. I was tied and flogged at the same time with Edward Fearon and Richard White.

Mr. Moore, Book-keeper, recalled.

The bad work complained of was done on the 28th June, and James Brown was tried on the 15th July. The magistrate called once, and I told him that there were complaints, but I did not like to bring them forward as the overseer was absent. The people had been breaking in corn in the field, and James Brown was eating a roasted corn while he was at his row. I told the constable, Adolphus Redwar, that James Brown was not doing his work; he and Adolphus then had some words, James Brown was a few yards behind the rest of the gang in his work.

Adolphus Redwar, recalled.

I did not see the corn in James Brown's hand, but he was eight or ten feet behind the able part of the gang, keeping up with the weak part like himself.

MONDAY, 2 October 1837.

Mr. Mallett, the overseer of Dunbarton, produced the estate's books, by which it appeared that the child claimed by Amaryllis Gale as free, was not entitled, as she supposed, to freedom on the 1st of August 1834, having been registered in the estate's book, as being born on the 30th June 1828. The copy of the registry return was also produced of the 28th June 1817, showing the age of Amaryllis Gale to be 47 years of age in 1837, being registered as 27 years of age in 1817.

Eleanor Richardson, a Cook on Dunbarton Estate; sworn.

I remember when Amaryllis Gale was locked up; it was on a Wednesday. I am a cook for the house; the book-keeper gave me a pint of rice and a herring to cook on the Wednesday, and carry to her; this was after buckra's breakfast time. I dressed the rice and herring, and carried it myself; the book-keeper unlocked the door and I gave it; I am certain that this was on the Wednesday, and not on the Saturday. I carried rice also to her on the Saturday and Sunday; I carried it to her on the Saturday evening, and twice on

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the Sunday. On being questioned particularly about the time of taking the rice on Wednesday, and on being told that Amaryllis Gale was not put into the dungeon on that day until 11 o'clock, this witness said that she carried the food about dinner time; the court were of opinion that she had not a proper conception of time. Mr. Mallett then offered to prove the fact by Henry Gale, the husband of Amaryllis Gale.

MONDAY, 2 October 1837.

Henry Gale, an Apprentice on Dunbarton; sworn.

Amaryllis Gale is my married wife; she was put in the dungeon first on a Monday; a pint of rice was carried in the evening of Wednesday; the book-keeper opened the door, and the cook took it in; as my wife tasted the rice, she said she did not like it, and I dressed some supper myself and carried it in, having been allowed to do so. Busha is a very hot-tempered man; but in hard times if any body goes to him complaining for hunger, he will give them something. In any other time if any person begs for a little salt, he will give it to them also.

Mr. Mallett begged to state in explanation, on oath, of the case of those persons who were put into the dungeon after being punished, that he certainly thought they were "shamming," considering that 20 lashes would not have incapacitated them from doing some work; he at first threatened to put them in a dungeon if they did not go to work, and then they were put in by the constables under his directions; he immediately despatched a messenger for the doctor, who came directly, and prescribed for them, saying, that they should be indulged a week, and go to light work on the Monday; this they refused to do, and he, Mr. Mallett, then ordered them to be put in the dungeon again, and sent for the doctor as before; he came, and both of them examined the sores, which were found to be worse than they were before, and the men were allowed to go to work or not as they thought proper; they were allowed to go to the hothouse, and remain there as long as they pleased; they were in the dungeon each time about an hour.

The Court.] Before the people were put in the dungeon, had the doctor or yourself examined their backs?—*Answer.* Their backs were not examined; as I could not have imagined that they were so cut up from the 20 lashes which they received.

Q. Did you examine their backs on the second occasion, before you put them into the dungeon?—A. No, I did not; for I supposed them to be well, or nearly well.

Encl. 7, in No. 50.

Enclosure 7, in No. 50.

Janette Saunders's Case, of Orange Valley.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

Taken at *Brown's Town*, in the Parish of *St. Ann*, respecting an Apprentice to Orange Valley Estate, named *Janette Saunders*.

MONDAY, 25 September 1837.

Janette Saunders, an Apprentice to Orange Valley; sworn.

I HAD a young child that was free, being under six years of age, when the new law came in; but the freedom was taken away, and it was made to work, and that was the cause of my being sent to the workhouse. I was sent to the workhouse handcuffed to a very old man; I do not know where the old man came from, he was taken to gaol-house.

This witness here entered into a narration of the sufferings she endured, and saw others endure in the workhouse; for which, see her evidence relating to the narrative of James Williams, p. 173.

The day that I went home from the workhouse I felt quite sick; I went to the overseer and got a dose of physic, and was turned out to work the next morning. I did not complain of being sick when I was turned out. The day that I was turned out to work was Thursday. After going to work I felt quite sick on the Friday, and continued sick Saturday and Sunday; I went to the overseer on Monday, and he sent me to the hospital, where I remained two or three weeks; my complaint was a great pain in my hip and side; I feel the pain even now in my hip. I am the mother of seven children, who are alive. Before I went to the workhouse I used to work in the great gang, and in the second gang, occasionally, before I went to the workhouse; I only worked in the great gang one week since my return; busha now allows me to take the days of one of my boys, who is minding cattle. I suffered at one time a great deal from sores, particularly in the right arm and leg, till I brought three children, and then I went on getting better. Before the 1st of August 1834, I used to sit down, on account of my large family; but I was put in the field directly after the new law came in.

Mr. *John Hibgame*, Overseer in Orange Valley; sworn.

Janette Saunders was ordered by Captain Andrew Dillon early in 1835 to turn out her child Archibald Forbes to work; when the magistrate went away, she refused to send the boy

boy to work, saying, that he was free, and they wanted to take his freedom from him. Captain Dillon returned a second time, and the books were brought up and examined, and he again ordered the boy to work, and in consequence of her continued refusal to allow him she was sentenced to the punishment of the treadmill. When she returned from the workhouse I did not see anything the matter with her; she took a dose of salts the next day, and went to work. Those women on the property who have six children alive are not required to turn out until eight o'clock, and if they turn out when the gang rises from breakfast I never trouble or quarrel with them; they are allowed every Friday. I do not know that Janette Saunders ever applied to Mr. Rawlinson to be put to light work in consequence of her large family.

Memorandum.—The commissioners referred to the estate's book of increase and decrease for 1828, and to the triennial return for 1829, and found an entry of Janette Saunders's child, Archibald Forbes, having been born on 17th June 1828.

Enclosure 8, in No. 50.

Encl. 8, in No. 50.

Nancy Webb's Case, Knapdale.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

Taken at *Brown's Town*, in the Parish of *Saint Ann*, respecting an Apprenticed Labourer on Knapdale Estate, named *Nancy Webb*.

TUESDAY, September 26th, 1837.

Nancy Webb, apprentice to Knapdale; sworn.

I WAS sent to the workhouse and put on the treadmill, but could not keep the step at all, and I hung by my wrists to the straps; my legs were dragged and knocked against the wheel, so that the blood could be traced all along the steps. This happened for four days good, and on the fifth day I managed to keep the step, as a woman on the mill showed me how to do it; the mill sometimes went very fast, and at other times slower. There were several others, who, like myself, could not keep the step at first; the reason why I could not keep it was, I was a very weakly woman, from being the mother of eleven children; seven of them are living. When we came off the mill, those that were hurt like myself, were sent to the sea-side to wash the wounds. My legs turned to a sore from being put on the mill, but still they kept putting me on, till the seven days were out that I was sent in for; I had a bandage round my sores, so that any one could see that I had sore legs; I was so lame that I was obliged to use a stick to go home, and continued to use it for some time afterwards: I was let out on the Wednesday evening, and did not reach home till shell turn-out on Thursday. I went to the overseer, Mr. Clarke, to show him my legs, and the state they were in, when he sent me to the hospital, where I remained for three weeks. When I could not keep the step on the treadmill the first and second day, I was catted over the small of my back; I felt the flogging through my clothes, but I was not cut by it. All the women used to sleep in one room at night with chains. The boatswains used to come and let us out very early in the mornings, but I never saw them attempt to take any indecent liberties with the women: there were very few women in the workhouse when I was there; two other women and myself were chained together. Before I was sent to the workhouse, I was brought up to the overseer by Joseph Brown, the constable, who charged me with insolence to him. I was put into the dungeon, and kept there from Friday evening four o'clock to Saturday evening six o'clock: I was kept there the whole time without food. On the Monday I was at work, and on Tuesday after shell turn-out in the evening Mr. Rawlinson was on the property, and Clarissa Thomson and myself were carried before him. The magistrate would not allow me to say a word in my defence, he only heard the head-constable and the overseer, and I was put again into the dungeon. Next morning the police was sent for, and I was carried by them, first to Penshurst, and then to St. Ann's workhouse; I was put, weak as I was, from having given birth to so many children, to help draw a cart with sand and stones; five or six had to draw the cart, and three or four to push it; I was never punished on any other occasion since the 1st of August 1834. I am now working in the second gang, but when Mr. Clarke was at Knapdale, I was working in the great gang. We never got our half Fridays in Mr. Clarke's time, but we get them now, as we are working on the nine hours' system. Before August 1834 I was sitting down, on account of having seven children; but a month before the 1st of August, Mr. Clarke put me in the great gang, saying, "before-time law, is not the same law now." I was delivered of a child some time afterwards, and could get no medicine or necessities from the overseer: my breast was swelled, and I applied to the doctor, who ordered something, but I don't know what it was he ordered. I could not get anything from the overseer; at last the breast got better, and I went to dig cane-holes. I went to work one Monday, and the breast raised up again, and I got fever; I told the constable on Tuesday that I had fever, and could not stand the work; he sent me to pick cane-tops, but I could not keep up even at that work, and was obliged to lay down in the field: in the evening I went to the overseer to be taken to the hospital, but he refused to allow me to go; I was

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then, although not able, obliged to continue at work. The next morning I went again to the overseer, but he would not allow me to go to the hospital, saying, that it was because I had six children that I did not want to work. Shortly after, Doctor Edward Tucker visited the property, and I went to him at the hospital; busha came up and told the doctor that nothing was the matter with me; I replied that I was sick, and having so many children, I ought to be put to light work. The doctor told me that the law was changed, and everybody must do something now. I never went back to the hospital, but the doctor told me that I was to get some physic, and something to wash the breast; he then wrote in the hospital book. One morning, when we were picking pimento for hire, the usual task barrel was changed, and another was put in its place; I had not enough to fill the big barrel, and I told the constable to wait a little, as I had sent for some which I had in the Negro-house. On my way I met Mr. Rawlinson, and he asked if I was the woman who said I would not throw pimento; the constable said "yes;" and Mr. Rawlinson gave me two or three licks with his supple-jack on my legs.

Mr. John Clarke, formerly an Overseer on Knapdale; sworn.

Nancy Webb had six children on the 1st of August 1834. Mr. Davis, the attorney, told me that as the hour of labour were so reduced, every one on the property must do something, that there must be no idler. This woman, with others, had been allowed to remain in the Negro-house with her children, and in consequence of this she was placed in the great gang; she is about 45 years of age; she complained frequently to all the special magistrates; to Doctor Palmer, Captain Conner, and Captain A. Dillon, they all concurred in opinion, that persons in her condition were not exempt from labour under the new law. She went to work after a great deal of difficulty, and has ever since worked very unwillingly. Out of this has arisen, I believe, those frequent applications to be admitted into the hospital. I do not think that they have proceeded from real sickness; I have frequently offered her to go to the grass-cutters' gang, which work is generally done by old women, and she rejected it. Under the impression that the law warranted it, I placed her in confinement on the property for 24 hours, on the occasion of her quarrel in the field with the constable. If she was confined more than 24 hours on that occasion, it was without my knowledge, and contrary to my positive orders, given both to the book-keeper and constable. She was confined on this occasion, on a complaint of the head-constable for insolence, and abusing him most shamefully in the field before the rest of the Negroes. As respects her statement about applying to the doctor, I can only say, that if anything was written in the book, it was read to the doctor-man, who has medicine under his charge; and it was his duty to have given it, if any had been ordered. When she applied to the doctor for something for her breast, he said, that as a breeding woman she ought to know what to do with it; that a cabbage-leaf was as good a thing as she could put on, and he recommended her to apply one: she had been in the hospital for a long time before this complaining of her breast. About this time Jarvis Webb, her husband, had run away for about six months, and, a proof that I had no ill-feeling towards the family, on his return to the estate he was allowed to escape with only the punishment of a few days being taken from him. On the return of Nancy Webb and Eliza Osborn from the treadmill the former complained of being sick; she had some slight bruises on her legs, which I did not consider severe, but coming from such severe punishment as she alleged having received, I thought it right to allow her to go to the hospital for a few days; she did not return to her work for some time; she certainly had bandages round her legs. I am certain that the special magistrate's returns will bear me out in the assertion, that there were as few if not fewer complaints urged against the people before them than on any other property in the neighbourhood; the special magistrate, Mr. Rawlinson, well knows that I looked over innumerable faults. I deny ever having told Miss Senior that two women had been sent from Knapdale to the workhouse, and returned, or hackled that they would not be able to do anything for more than two weeks, or words to that effect.

Dr. Tucker, sworn.

I know Nancy Webb very well; I am certain that when she showed me her swelled breast that I must have prescribed for her; it is generally my practice to do so; it is possible that I gave a verbal direction, as I sometimes do so when the complaints are not of a serious nature. I have often seen apprentices returning to the estates from the workhouse at St. Ann's bruised, but not cut up, nor did I see any marks of flogging on the legs. Never saw any bad ulcers produced from the striking of the treadmill; the people generally complained of pains in the shoulders and stomach, and go to the hospital after returning. I have seen the treadmill at St. Ann's; I should think the punishment too severe for a pregnant woman. I do not remember an instance of a mother, with a sucking child, having been punished on the treadmill, suffering so much from the effects of punishment as to take away from the health of the infant. I should certainly think it necessary that a matron should attend to the hospital of the workhouse, and that the females should not be left to the care of men.

The hospital book of Knapdale having been produced by Mr. Clarke, the commissioners directed the following extract to be taken therefrom.—"4th Nov. 1836.—Nancy Webb.—Rub the painful parts with soap and laudanum." There also appeared prescriptions in the hospital books, bearing dates 12th and 15th January and 15th February, of the same nature as the one copied.

Joseph Brown, Head-constable on Knapdale ; sworn.

I know Nancy Webb; I remember when she was sent to the workhouse; she was brought up for idling when threshing canes. When I observed her idling I called to her, and she made use of bad words, and as my temper is rather short, I returned the words. I complained of her to the overseer, who brought her before the magistrate, and he sent her to the workhouse. It was not for going over the wall to go to the bush. The same day others were idling, and standing up and eating canes, but she was not eating any. Clarissa Thomson was carried before Mr. Rawlinson, at the same time, for the like offence, and sent with Nancy Webb to the workhouse. I know Elizabeth Osborne too. One day, while working, she went and stooped down aside the wall eating a piece of cane; I don't know whether she was easing herself or not; I called to her, as busha was sharp upon me to have the work finished. I told him the people would not work; he ordered me to bring them up, I did so, and she was put into the dungeon. Next day she was brought up with Sarah Stewart, before Mr. Rawlinson, at Brown's Town, who desired them to be locked up in Knapdale dungeon two nights, and pay back three days. Sarah Stewart went, but a woman, named Eliza Osborne, made use of bad language to me in coming out, and said she would sooner go to St. Ann's house of correction than the dungeon. The magistrate then called her back, and sentenced her to the house of correction. After Eliza Osborne came back from the house of correction she was put in the hospital, but I don't know whether she was ordered to cut grass on Saturdays. I do not remember the magistrate meeting Nancy Webb, with pimento, coming to the barbacue from the negro-houses, and striking Nancy Webb with his supple-jack. The magistrate's instructions to me were, that when the people behaved bad, by not doing their work, that I was to lock them up; and the overseer told me that I was to carry them after, before the magistrate, but I often pardoned them, after locking them up; and after taking them out of the dungeon I would not carry them before the magistrate, as they begged so very hard. I am a man of short temper, but it does not overcome me so much as to make me strike either man, woman, or child; I never put my hand on anybody except my own children; I never locked up one for spite, and let go others for same offence, because I liked them better. I know James Davis and his sister Nelly Gordon; I remember having a dispute with her, and on speaking to her while quarrelling she came up in a resolute way, and I put my hand on her and shoved her away; she went and told her brother, who wanted in consequence to hit me with a cane top. I did not collar him, but complained to the overseer, so did James Davis, and the overseer said the magistrate should settle it; and when the magistrate came we were all brought before him. I spoke first, and the magistrate, after hearing us all, sentenced James Davis and Nelly Gordon to the workhouse. The magistrate heard them tell their story as well as me; he sent them to the workhouse, and ordered them to dance the treadmill. James Davis was ordered to be flogged at the workhouse; the complaint against him was for this quarrel.

From questions put to him by the Court, this witness, after many contradictory assertions, said, "He was not in the habit of locking people up at all." This witness prevaricated so much, that he was desired by Mr. Daughtrey, in his capacity of special magistrate, to bring his constable's warrant down to-morrow; that he had been guilty of gross acts of cruelty and tyranny, and that he should never have another opportunity of being so again, his warrant should be cancelled to-morrow; and he should take good care to represent him in the proper quarter, so that he might never be a constable again.

Thomas Bayley, Second Constable on Knapdale ; sworn.

I remember the time Nancy Webb was sent to the workhouse, but as I am a cartman, I did not know the commencement of the quarrel. I was going along one morning with the cart, dunging and supplying canes; I heard a blustering in the field, and on going on I heard Joseph Brown blustering a great deal; he said, "As long as I live upon this property I will never take your word again; you are a cursed damned liar; you pretend to be a christian, and have told me a lie, saying you were not idling, when I saw you so; you are a damned liar, and a damned infernal liar;" he gave her a double portion of curses; he damned her upwards of nine times. I did not hear any answer him, and I did not know, therefore, who he was cursing. Going little further, Mrs. Webb called out, Brother Bayley, listen and hear how the constable is cursing me; all the curses you hear is for me; I replied, Go away with your nonsense, I have many things to consider of besides these nonsensical affairs. Joseph Brown then told Nancy Webb, "What right have you to call a constable's name to me; damn you and damn the constable." Mrs. Webb said, "I think I had a right to call on brother Bayley, for the same magistrate that swore you in as a constable swore him." Brown then began to curse me, and I told him that he should not do so without my getting satisfaction by complaining to the magistrate; and he said, "Damn you and your satisfaction; I will take you to the overseer;" and so he did. He went and complained to Mr. Clarke, the overseer, but I don't know the nature of the complaint; he remained in the house a long time; I went to Mr. Clarke myself to know if he gave Brown authority to abuse me; I saw Brown and Mr. Clarke in the house; I told him of the abuse which he gave to Mrs. Webb and myself. Mr. Clarke felt much at what I told him, and reproved Brown, and told me, "Never mind, Thomas, go and mind your work." Brown went back to the field, and when I went to the place, he, Brown, knelt down and said, "Well, old man, pardon and forgive me, I know that I was wrong." We shook hands upon it; he followed me to my house, and begged the same

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way. I told him I pardoned him with all my heart, and for ever; and from that time to this I never thought of it again. Mrs. Webb was sent to the workhouse in consequence of this very quarrel. She has been a mother of 11 children, and has seven alive; she is a woman whom I never see indulging; sometimes she would go to the hot-house, but I supposed she must have been sick. I have heard several people complain of being struck by him, but he never offered to do so to me. I heard of the quarrel between James Davis and Nelly Gordon; I was not present. James Davis is a lad of excellent temper, he is by no means quarrelsome. Nelly Gordon is a good girl, but not so good tempered as Davis. When James Williams and Adam Brown, of Penshurst, were sent to Knapdale to be locked up, it was in the bottom dungeon they were put; this was the worst of the whole.

Jarvis Webb, Carpenter on Knapdale; sworn.

I had run away from Knapdale for some days, when I came back my days were taken from me by the overseer; I met a severe accident six years ago, and three years ago. I was some time ago made boatswain of the mill-house; the sugar was bad, and it was said that the liquor in the mill-house was sour in my spell; I was threatened to be taken before Mr. Rawlinson, but Mr. Davis, the attorney, advised the overseer to drop the complaint; after he went away, Mr. Clarke, the overseer, persevered in taking me before Mr. Rawlinson, and I knew Mr. Rawlinson to be such a man that I was afraid of facing him, and I ran away. When I came back I was made to pay the days I had lost; I have not kept any account of the days I have had to pay.

Encl. 9, in No. 50.

Enclosure 9, in No. 50.

GENERAL COMPLAINTS heard at *Brown's Town*.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

Taken at *Brown's Town*, in the Parish of *Saint Ann*, respecting certain Complaints made by the Apprentices attached to Hyde Park.

MONDAY, 2d October 1837.

Maria Greaves, an apprentice, about 18 years of age, hired on Hyde Park; sworn.

I REMEMBER Mr. M'Lean, the bookkeeper, desiring me to carry a basket of yams; I did not say anything; the bookkeeper asked me why I said I would not carry the basket; I told him I did not say so; he asked me so again; I did not say anything, but went to dig the yams, and after filling the basket I carried the yams to busha's house. The bookkeeper then ordered the constable to lock me up in the dungeon, and the constable went to the busha for the key, which he got, and locked me up; this was on Thursday night; I was let out Friday morning. On the same day Captain T. A. Dillon came, and I was carried before him, and he sent me for seven days to the house of correction and treadmill. My shins were bruised in the treadmill; they did not flog me in the mill. While I was in the workhouse, James Thomas often asked me to go aside with him, that I might have improper intercourse with him; he often asked me to cohabit with him, and he put me aside to ask me; but I always refused, and he then put me back to the gang.

Amelia Sims, an apprentice to Hyde Park, about 17 or 18 years of age; sworn.

I remember the affair about the yams; I did not quarrel or make any noise, but I and my playmate, Maria Greaves, was having a little talking. I went for the yams where they had been dug up, but made no noise about the weight; I filled the basket, and carried them to the busha's house. The bookkeeper then made the constable take Maria Greaves and lock her up in the dungeon; I was not put into the dungeon. In the morning, after breakfast, Captain T. A. Dillon came, and the busha brought Maria Greaves and myself before him, and he sent us to the house of correction and treadmill for seven days; another girl, named Mary Brown, was also sent.

Mary Brown, an apprentice to Hyde Park, about 19 years of age; sworn.

I remember digging in yams by the desire of busha, who gave us a large basket to fill; it was too big, and it was packed quite full. I had just come out of the house, about two weeks after the time had passed that I was allowed to sit down after my delivery; my child died about three days after its birth. I complained, and said that the basket was packed too much; I said so to myself. I said I could not carry it, but although I said so I carried it; this was all I did; and when Captain T. A. Dillon came, I was carried before him, along with Maria Greaves and Amelia Sims, and I was sentenced to seven days in the house of correction and in the treadmill. While I was on the treadmill my shins were bruised, as I could not keep the step; I went on the treadmill once a day. None of us were catted while we were on the mill.

Mr. *Malcolm M'Lean*, Book-keeper on Hyde Park ; sworn.

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The gang was ordered out in the coffee-walk in the morning, the men to dig the yams, while the women hoed the coffee. When the yams were dug, the baskets were packed by the men who were overlooked by the constables. After the baskets were filled, I desired the head-constable to call the women to carry them up to the overseer's house. When the women came up to the place to take their baskets up, they complained that they were too heavily packed, and quarrelled among themselves about the baskets. I ordered silence several times, and the constable also, but we were both unnoticed ; there was a great tumult among them, several of them throwing a part of the yams out of their baskets to lighten their loads. After a little time we obtained silence for a few minutes, and, during the time I could be heard, I threatened to make an example of the first one who dared to commence a noise again. Maria Greaves was the first to commence, by quarrelling with Amelia Sims. I again ordered silence, but not being heard, I desired the constable to carry Maria Greaves up to the overseer. She was carried up, taking her load with her, as I considered one a sufficient example ; the other two were convicted on the evidence of the constable. She was locked up that evening, and the next day she was let out in the morning and carried before the magistrate, "charged with insubordination in the field, thereby obstructing the labour on the property, and disobedience of orders." Captain Dillon said that several charges of the same kind had been preferred before him, and he was determined not to overlook this ; there were no charges preferred against the other two, but by the evidence of the constable the other two were mentioned, and they were sent for and were present during the trial. The magistrate asked if there were more than one cell on the property, or locking-up room, as he had great objections to sending such young girls to the treadmill, in consequence of what he had heard of the manner of conducting the treadmill. I was sworn on making the charge before Captain Dillon. I have been in the country for six years, and I have seen negroes carrying yams ; their general load is about 40 lbs. ; I have seen 50 lbs. carried, and more, but I do not think that the loads alluded to in the charge made before the special magistrate exceeded 30 lbs. Captain Dillon, having been informed that there was but one cell on the property, which would not admit of solitary confinement, said that he had no alternative but sending them to the treadmill, and he did so.

Mary Brown, recalled.—Susannah Campbell went to Captain Dillon to complain that her child had been taken away too soon from her to wean, but that Captain Dillon refused to hear her.

Mr. *Walden*, the overseer, said that the child of Susannah Campbell is now upwards of 18 months old, and she would not wean the child ; she said that she would not wean it for Captain Dillon or anybody else.

A complaint having been forwarded to the magistrates by Julia Reid, of Hyde Park, saying that she had a sucking infant afflicted with yaws, and she went to Captain Dillon in consequence, requesting to be put to easier work than the great gang ; that she was taken out of the great gang, and put to hoe the ground around 150 coffee trees per day, which was the labour of a strong, able man ; that she was not able to do this, but she did what the constable considered a fair day's work. That the bookkeeper, Mr. M'Lean, came to reckon them, and he complained that she had not done enough ; that the constable, Elliston Brown, said that Mr. M'Lean had not reckoned all she had done ; that she was then brought before Captain Dillon, and he sentenced her, to lose 40 days in March, of which she has now paid 15 days. The following investigation was entered into :

Mr. *Walden* says, that the child has been weaned a long while ago, and that Julia Reid was delivered yesterday, the 1st of October, of a male child. I received, about 12 months ago, a letter from Captain Dillon, stating that the woman had come to him, bringing the child with the yaws, and that he wished me to put her to some bye-work. I put her to a coffee-piece by herself, close to the overseer's house, and gave her three days to put the hut there to rights, and to remain there with the child, cleaning at the same time the coffee-pieces, and attending occasionally to the child. I did not give her any task-work. I went to the coffee-piece about ten times in September, and only found her there on one or two occasions. In December last I sent Mr. M'Lean, the bookkeeper, and Constable Brown, to reckon the work she had done since she had been there. I sent Mr. M'Lean again in February, as I was unable to get out of the house from a broken leg, and he reported to me what had been done ; this was of so trifling a nature, that I brought her up before Captain Dillon, who, after counting the work and allowing the cleaning of 150 trees per day, found that she was 37 days short. Captain Dillon desired her to pay back 24 days ; and, to make it as easy as possible for her, told her she had better bring one or two of her children to assist. She did so ; and after she had paid about 14 days I forgave her the balance of her sentence, and I allowed her every morning three-fourths of an hour to wash her sick child, who was living in the grandmother's hut with her. The grandmother was doing nothing whatever.

Elliston Brown, a Constable in Hyde Park ; sworn.

I remember when Mr. M'Lean went to count the work that Julia Reid did, but he did not count the whole of the work ; the work she was put to do was 150 trees per day. I did not hear the busha say so, but the girl told me so herself ; the bookkeeper only counted

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the half of the work she did, but much was not left; I did not tell this to the busha; I know nothing of the days she had to pay back.

Mr. *M'Lean* recalled.—I received instructions from the overseer to go and count the work with the constable, Elliston Brown. I am sure that the constable was with me during the whole time I was counting, and, if I had made any mistake, I certainly think it would have been his duty to have mentioned it. I certainly did not make any intentional mistake; and I found a great defalcation of labour, counting the labour at 150 trees per day.

Jane Sims, an Apprentice to Hyde Park; sworn.

I am in the field in the great gang; I was put in the coffee-store to pick coffee along with some other negroes; I was put in soon in the morning, then let out to breakfast for half an hour; I never was allowed to go to ease myself, and I was not let out till about five o'clock. I was confined in the coffee-store from Monday to Thursday picking coffee; I felt sick, and went to the hospital as my back hurted me; after that I went to the busha, who pulled my petticoat down, raised up my shift, and my person was exposed to him, and he walked round me; he then made the doctor-woman throw and rub turpentine on my back. The door of the coffee-store is locked, sometimes outside and sometimes inside; when I was in, the constable locked it inside, and the key left in the door. The busha said if we wanted to ease ourselves, we must do so inside, as there was too much coffee stolen.

Mary Ann Kelly, Doctor-woman in Hyde Park; sworn.

I remember Jane Sims being brought to the hothouse; busha told me to bring up all the hothouse people; I did so; the busha then sent me for the turpentine to rub the back of Jane Sims, and I brought it. I dropt her petticoat and drew her shift, and rubbed her back before the busha; busha desired me to do it that way; I could not do it otherwise, as busha desired me to do it so; I tried as much as I could to prevent the indecent exposure of her person; I dropped her petticoat half way, and took up her shift to rub the back; a part of her person was exposed behind; busha desired me to draw the shift up more, and he walked about seeing all of that part of her person which was exposed. I endeavoured all I could to prevent the exposure; she was in the family way, but lost the child. Sophia Reid was present when the person of Jane Sims was exposed in the way related.

On question from Mr. Walden, Mary Ann Kelly said busha desired me to drop the petticoat and rub the back well; I did so, and put my hand under the shift to rub her back, but busha then called out, "Take it up, take it up;" and then I was obliged to take the shift up.

Mr. *M'Lean* being examined as to the charge of locking up the people in the coffee-store without allowing them to go out for the purposes of nature, said "The gang was ordered in the coffee-store to pick coffee, and, on account of coffee having been missed out of the barbecues and coffee-store, Mr. Walden desired me to keep the coffee-store locked so as to prevent them from carrying any out." I did so for one day; they had notice given to them, and they had an hour for breakfast, and were drawn off at four o'clock; this was the only day in which they were prevented to go out, and when some of them wanted to ease themselves they did so in the coffee-store in a secluded part, which I admit was a very improper place for them to do so in.

Mr. Walden admitted that he had ordered the woman, Jane Sims, up, because she often complained that no attention was paid to her in the hothouse; that he did not perceive more than a very small part of her back; that he does not remember any other men being present, and that although he had a female companion in the house, he did not call her to supply his place while the doctor-woman was rubbing the back of the woman.

The Court.—"Such conduct on your part was highly indecorous and indeed disgusting; it betrayed gross outrage upon the feelings of the woman; you may think little of it, but we assure you that it will be reprobated by every man of correct mind."

Enclosure 10, in No. 50.

Encl. 10, in No. 50.

Gibraltar Case.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

Taken in the Matter of Complaint preferred by *James Hall*, an Apprentice to Gibraltar, against Mr. *James Lothian*, Overseer of that Property, for imprisoning him under the alleged Directions of the Honourable William Frater (the Attorney), for holding "Religious Meetings" in his House.

TUESDAY, 3 October 1837.

James Hall, an Apprentice to Gibraltar; sworn.

ABOUT three weeks ago I was put in the dungeon for having prayer-meeting in my house. The overseer, Mr. James Lothian, sent and called me and said, "That he would not allow me to keep any meeting in my house; that it was Mr. Frater's orders none should be kept

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on Gibraltar." Mr. Frater is the attorney; it was about nine o'clock at night when they went away; we began prayers at Buckra's supper time. There were only three strange people from Manchester estate, all of the rest were people belonging to the property; there were only ten of us altogether. We have never had leave from the overseer to have prayer-meetings; he would not allow it; but when the people from Manchester estate came there, they proposed that we should have prayers, and I gave the use of my house for that purpose; we have never had prayers there since that night. The overseer said that Mr. Frater gave orders that no prayer-meetings should be held; we had not yet finished when busha sent down to stop us. We had just raised a hymn when the constable, Richard Moulton, came down and said, "James Hall, busha says you must come up with me and go into the dungeon." When I asked him for what I was to be put in, he said for having the prayer-meeting at my house. When I went up I saw the overseer, who said, "Your ears are too hard; I have told you before that Mr. Frater will not have any prayer-meetings on the property, and yet you allow it." The meeting did not continue to hold prayers after I was taken into custody; I begged busha very hard not to put me into the dungeon, as I had not anything to eat, and said I would not do so again; but he would not take any excuse, but put me into the dungeon, and let me out again next morning at six o'clock. The special magistrate, Capt. T. A. Dillon, came on the property afterwards, but I was never taken before him by the busha; heard Mr. Frater myself say, in last coffee time (about July), that we were not to keep prayers on the property. We had a meeting about that time, and a man from Industry came there to keep prayers for us; he was the only stranger; there were about ten of us present on that occasion, and we finished prayers that night. Mr. Frater called after that, summoned all the people up and gave us orders, before the overseer, not to have any more meetings; that the man on the property who kept prayers was to be sent to St. Ann's, to be punished.

Richard Moulton, Head-constable on Gibraltar; sworn.

There was a prayer-meeting at James Hall's house on Monday last week; there were three men from Manchester estate there; I don't think there were 12 people present; I was not there, but in my house; there was a hymn raised, and the overseer called me and told me to go and bring up these people; that he would not have any prayer-meeting on the property. I went and took the three strangers, and carried them up to him; he turned them away on the road, putting them outside the gate, and telling them never to come again. The overseer, on learning from me that the meeting was held at James Hall's house, sent me to bring him up and lock him up. When I brought the old man up, he begged very hard to be let go, saying, that he would never do so again; but the overseer said, "No, I will lock you up; for if I let you go to-night, you will go and hold meeting again; I shall lock you up as a warning." I heard Mr. Frater say once, that he would not have any noise on the property at night, but he did not mention anything about hymns or prayers. There used to be prayer-meetings before that constantly in James Hall's house, but a stop has been put to it; the people stopped after this order of Mr. Frater not to have any noise; I told them to stop, as I consider that Mr. Frater, in saying he would not have any noise on the property at night, meant by that, the noise made by singing at prayer-meeting. There has been no meeting since the night that James Hall was put into the dungeon.

Mr. James Lothian, Overseer of Gibraltar; sworn.

I went as overseer on Gibraltar on the 26th of June last; the people, on one occasion, after that date, held a prayer-meeting; two men from Industry, named George Anderson and John Duncan, respectable apprentices and masons on Industry, came to Gibraltar to conduct the meeting. Before that night I told the constable that I would not allow such things, as there was at Stewart-town a chapel to which they could go (about seven miles). After the first meeting I told the people that I would not allow it. Soon after Mr. Frater came and told him that the people had meetings on the property, singing psalms and hymns; previously to this, Mr. Dexter, the Baptist missionary at Stewart-town, had written a letter to me stating that I must not disturb the people at their meetings. I showed this letter to Mr. Frater, but he would not read it, saying that he would have nothing to do with Baptist parsons. He, however, afterwards told me to send it to him, which I did. On the first occasion of Mr. Frater's being told by me that the people had held a meeting, he told me to go down to the coffee-store, when the people were there at work, and desire the constable to come to him. When the constable, Richard Moulton, went to him, he gave him strict orders not to allow such proceedings on the property; that if he did he would send him to the workhouse. Mr. Frater then went away. On Monday night last fortnight I heard a singing of hymns at the negro-houses; I immediately called out to them to stop; but the houses of the people were not very near to the place where I called out; I called out three times; and, as they did not stop, I called for the constable, who stopped some little time before he answered. I called to him to fetch the people up, and was going down myself, when I met him coming up with three of the Manchester estate apprentices by the gate. I told him to let them go, and bring the man in whose house the meeting was held. The Manchester people were following me up to the overseer's house, and I told them that they must go away from the property instantly. I went to the house and left them on the road going; I then directed the constable to bring up James Hall, and lock him up in the dungeon, having ascertained that the meeting had been in his house;

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he was locked up, and let out in the morning; but I never took him after that before the special magistrates to complain; is quite certain that Mr. Frater told the man that he would send him himself to the workhouse if he allowed any meetings of that kind there.

Encl. 11, in No. 50.

Enclosure 11, in No. 50.

Sammy Hill's Case.

MINUTES of EVIDENCE

Taken at *Brown's-town*, respecting the Death of a Male Apprentice to Cave Valley Estate in the Parish of *St. Ann*, named *Sammy Hill*; and on other Complaints made by sundry Apprentices of Cave Valley Estate, respecting the Discipline of that Property.

SATURDAY, 30 September 1837.

Robert Morris, recalled; sworn.—I remember *Sammy Hill*, an old watchman at Cave Valley; he was the watchman of a corn-piece, and was coming home at night, when the dogs at the trash-house raised upon him, and he fell and broke one of his feet. The busha set the leg before the doctor came; he knew the circumstance at night when it happened; I don't know whether the busha set the leg at night or in the morning. *Sammy Hill* said he was coming to his house for his victuals; I do not know who it was that carried him to the hothouse; I saw him when he was about being carried to the hothouse; I looked through my door and saw him.

Caroline Hall, recalled; sworn.—I was not doctor-woman at the time of *Sammy Hill's* accident; *Catherine James* was the doctor-woman.

John Hogg, recalled; sworn.—I remember the time that *Sammy Hill* broke his leg; it was in the night; I saw him in the morning, when they were carrying him to the hothouse, but not since.

Catherine Hanson, recalled; sworn.—I remember going into the hothouse after the accident to *Sammy Hill*, and seeing him there; Doctor *Samuel Tucker* was there; Doctor *Tucker* was quarrelling with him for his obstinacy in not going upon the bed to lay himself down, from which obstinacy the leg would not set properly; I saw the doctor feel the leg; it was all quite swelled, and the front of the bone on the thigh was cocked up; the doctor was also quarrelling about the box which was made to put the man's foot in, as it was very badly made. I don't know how many days after the fracture it was before the doctor saw him, but I don't think that that was the first time.

TUESDAY, 3 October 1837.

Catherine James, Doctor-woman on Cave Valley; sworn.

I was doctor-woman when *Sammy Hill* received the bite from the dog, and broke his leg; busha sent to call me, and on going to him he sent me to call the bookkeeper up, whom he sent to the place where *Sammy Hill* was at. A man, by the name of *Sam Gordon*, was also sent to assist the bookkeeper in raising up *Sammy Hill* and carrying him to the workhouse; they carried him to the hothouse, and busha examined his broken leg and bound it with the back of the mountain cabbage; after setting the bone, the leg was bandaged quite tight, and was kept wet with vinegar. In the morning busha sent for the doctor, who came the following day; he only looked at the leg, but did not remove the bandage. On being told that busha had set it, he said it was set quite well, there was no occasion for him to pull it; he gave the man a dose of salts. The man was bitten by the dog on both legs, which were poulticed, and got quite sound afterwards; the fracture was on the right thigh; the man lived about three or four months after that; he never got up, or moved about on crutches during the time, and he never went out of the hospital. One day he made an attempt to creep out of the door, and got as far as the threshold and sat down there; at the time of his death his testicles began to get quite swelled; a box was made to put his leg in, and, it being too large, I used to stuff it with cloth; when I was there he would keep his leg in, but in my absence he always tried to take out the stuffing and move the leg. The doctor used to see him often; at one time he pulled the bandage off and put the bone right, and then bandaged it again; it was about a week or two after he saw him first that he did that. During his confinement in the hothouse the bone showed itself out of the flesh a little bit; the old man used to fret a great deal about it. The accident took place between eight and nine o'clock; when I went to see him at the place where he was, I did not see any basket, or anything at all with him. While he was in the hothouse, busha never gave him anything but a little toddy in the evening; he gave him that every evening; the man's wife used to bring him whatever he wanted, but he would scarcely take anything. There was no inquest held on the body after the death of the man; he was buried by his wife.

Sam Gordon, a Watchman on Cave Valley; sworn.

I remember *Sammy Hill*; I remember the night of the accident which he received. Busha put me to watch the yard, and told me that whenever I heard the dog, I must go and see what

what was the matter. One night I heard the dog bark, and I went to see; I saw Sammy Hill sitting down, with one leg stretched out, and the other bent under him; I asked him what was the matter with him, and why he had left the place busha gave him to watch; I told him that busha would be vexed with him. He said, "Yes, I know that; but what can I do?" I informed busha of the accident, who got up directly and sent me for the doctor-woman; he also sent for the bookkeeper, and when we had all come up, he sent us to the place where Sammy Hill was lying down. Busha went himself, and, on getting to the place, asked him what he was doing there; he told him that he should have been at his watch. Sammy Hill replied, that he was on his way to the apprentices' yard to get something to eat. Busha sent me to get somebody from the negro-yard to help to carry Sammy Hill to the hothouse; I did not get anybody, and I carried him myself on my back to the hothouse, holding the lame leg in one hand; he placed his two hands over my stomach; I was never called to give evidence before any inquest.

SATURDAY, 30 September 1837.

Robert Morris, recalled.—No person ever struck me in the field: I have seen the busha strike people; I saw the busha jam with his stick a man, by the name of Robert Douglas, on his chest; when he jammed him, Robert Douglas told him that he would know the cause of his being jammed; the busha said that he did not care for the king, much less the magistrate; the man did not fall, but he, the busha, went on trying to shove him down, and at last when the man catch up he left him.

John Hogg recalled.—I remember one morning seeing a boy come to the hothouse; busha came in from the field and asked the boy, Richard Merryday or Meredith, what he wanted; he said he was sick. Busha took his supple-jack and flogged him off the step; and, as the boy still persisted in not going away, he took him in the hospital; I went to him myself in the still-house; he had ordered me out the night before by the constable to go to the field; I went to him the next day to the still-house for a hoe; he said, "Go away, I have no hoe." I asked him how I could go to the field without a hoe; that I should only have to stand up and look at the rest; he still refused giving me the hoe; and as I continued to ask, he took the liquor-rod which he had in his hand, and gave me a push at the stomach with it, which dropped me down; I fell backwards, and said that I would complain when the magistrate came, and I told Robert Morris that I would call him as a witness; but when the captain came I did not complain, as I did not think much of it, considering that the busha had struck me in a passion. I went to the field that day, and worked Wednesday and Thursday. On Friday, as busha owed me a day, he sent to call me, and said, "Hogg, I owe you a day; you can go now and take it." I went and had it. On Sunday night busha sent to tell me that I might return to my work in the carpenter's shop, and I went; I do not know why I was pitched upon to go to the field, and the other carpenters left. Busha and I never quarrelled on any other occasion; he has never done me anything else that I could complain of. Sometimes when we, the tradespeople, are working in the wood, and busha comes up, if he happens to be in a good humour, and we beg him for a little rum, he sends it to us. I have heard (but never saw it) that the same indulgence has been given sometimes to the field-people.

Catherine Hanson complained to the Commissioners that some time ago there was a great flood on Cave Valley, which came down so heavy as to alarm the people who were in the hothouse; who, thereupon, broke two of the panes of the sash, went out on the barbacue, and then pulled out a few of the sticks of the fence, and went to the negro-houses; they said they were trying to escape from the coming water. Busha carried them to the magistrate for breaking out of the hospital, and they were sentenced by Captain T. A. Dillon to be flogged; their names are Richard James and William Hall. From the time of his flogging, which was at Kensington, I believe, by the police, Richard James never recovered his sickness until the week before last, when I understood that the magistrate ordered him out of the hothouse for change of air; he has not recovered his health from the day of his flogging until now; he was always a strong young man before that, but he has not since his flogging been able to work either for his owner or himself.

With regard to the flood, *John Hogg* said, I remember the time of the water coming down; it was at night; I was in my house, and heard a great noise; a little boy, between three and four o'clock in the morning, jumped up and said, "Master, I am wet." I got up, and on putting my feet to the ground, I found them in water; I opened the door, and on looking out I saw the water all before my door in the garden. I halloed out to my house-keeper, who was in the house where I was sleeping (the house was hers), and said, "Susan, awake, we are in the flood; endeavour to assist yourself, for I must go to my own house to look after my things." On my way going I alarmed the people, who got up; they brought lights, and began to assist themselves; I went to my house, and took out as many things as I could, and carried them up to the hill, and laid them by my aunt's house; I went backwards and forwards to my mother's house till day-light; the rain was pouring down all the time. The water at the night took my house about the depth of 11 feet; it was sometime about four or five days before the water cleared away, and I then began to put my house in order, and put my things in; some of the houses in the gully below the great house were entirely covered, being rather low, and the water rising there to a great height. After the flood was over, the overseer told the people that if they would build houses in a high situation, and would carry their shingles off the old houses, he would give them

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them every assistance with the tradespeople on the property; those people whose houses were destroyed received the assistance from the busha, which he promised. With regard to the hospital on the night of the flood, there is a cellar underneath; and I don't think that the water affected the cellar, nor do I think the hothouse was in any danger; but the people were afraid, in consequence of the great rush of water in the gully, which was nearly —. The gully was between the hothouse and the negro-houses; and had the people in the hothouse attempted to go to the negro-houses they must have been lost. The water entirely surrounded the negro-houses to a great depth. About 11 years ago there was another flood; it was worse than this; but as it came in the day, and the last one in the night, the people were not so much frightened then; people were in the hothouse the first time, and as the door did not use to be locked then, the people who were in it had an opportunity of coming out.

Encl. 12, in No. 50.

Enclosure 12, in No. 50.

Cardiff Hall Cases.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

Taken at *Brown's Town*, in the Parish of *St. Ann*, respecting certain Complaints made by the Apprentices attached to Cardiff Hall and Unity Pens.

Thomas Cohall's Case.

TUESDAY, 3 October 1837.

Thomas Cohall, a Field Labourer on Unity and Cardiff Hall Pens; sworn.

I REMEMBER being one night last year the watchman of pimento, on the barbacue; before the apprenticeship three persons were placed to watch the barbacue; since the apprenticeship the busha took me and two others to watch the barbacue. Last year crop time the barbacue was quite full, and it was more than one man could undertake to watch it, as the other two were taken off. I sent by the driver to tell busha this, and he sent for answer, that he would not take me off, nor give me anybody to help, except he got me well corrected for it. This answer was brought to me by the constable, Benjamin Moncrieff. I still kept on watching, and one night I felt quite sick, and went to the bookkeeper and complained of my belly, carrying a man with me by the name of Thomas Hull, who was willing to take my place. I went home, and before I could reach the house, Thomas Hull ran after me, to tell me that the night was so dark some one had come and had attempted to steal a half bag of pimento; that they had filled a bag half way and left it. I went back to the bookkeeper with Thomas Hull, and the bookkeeper said, "Well, Thomas, just as you went away somebody has come to steal the pimento." I said I was very sorry for it; he said he would complain in the morning to busha, and I said I could not help it, as I had told busha already that it was more than me (one) could manage. In the morning busha was told of it, and sent for Mr. Sowley, the special magistrate, before whom I was carried, and received 40 stripes at St. Ann's workhouse. I received the flogging, and went back to the property. When I reached home I went to the hothouse for a week, and after that I went to work; the back broke out in sores, and busha said that he was very glad to find that I got it so well. I watched the barbacue then at night, receiving the day in return, until the crop was finished.

Mr. *Joseph Osborn*, Overseer to Cardiff Hall; sworn.

When I took charge of Cardiff Hall, in November 1835, I found Thomas Cohall the only watchman on the barbacue; the pimento crop was nearly finished; he continued as a watchman all through the crop, receiving the day in return for his night. He was a watchman also all out of crop in 1836; he sent to me by the head-constable, to say that the watch was too much for him. I told the constable, Benjamin, that the watch was not too much, because he could see the pimento all over the barbagues, at any part of the barbagues he might choose to stand; I did not consider that equal to watching a cattle-pen, which is now-a-days done by one man. A few days afterwards he sent to say that he wished to be taken away from the watch; I told him I could not think of taking him away, as he had a very easy job for the last 12 months, when there was no pimento to watch; that he never wished to be taken away out of crop, and I refused to take him away when there was a little work to do. I knew no fault against the man, and I deny having made any threat to Benjamin to punish him, as I had no fault to find with him. A few days previous to the 28th September 1836, Mr. Butler, the bookkeeper at the barbagues, told me that he had caught Thomas Hull stealing pimento. I told Mr. Butler to relate what had taken place; he said that, in the evening previous, he noticed that Thomas Cohall had come to his work as usual, accompanied by Thomas Hull; they remained together in a way he did not like the appearance of; before going to bed, about nine o'clock, he, the bookkeeper, took a walk round the barbagues, and found a bag of pimento nearly dry, which weighed the next morning 84 lbs.; it was lying off the barbacue a few paces; Thomas Hull was standing beside it, but had not hold of it. He, the bookkeeper, then called to the watchman, Thomas Cohall, but he did not appear, and Mr.

Butler,

Butler, the bookkeeper, said he was certain the watchman had gone away for the purpose of allowing Thomas Hull to take the pimento. I did not send for a special magistrate, but waited until Mr. Sowley's usual day to visit the property; I brought both of the men before Mr. Sowley on the 28th September, and I related the case to Mr. Sowley, but he refused to adjudicate on Thomas Hull, alleging that it was an act of theft. I then preferred a charge against Cohall for neglect of his duty as a watchman, as it was my opinion he was implicated in the theft; he was sentenced to receive 20 stripes at St. Ann's Bay, and return to the property. I heard nothing of his being sick either before or after the night that he left the watch, but I admitted him into the hospital after being flogged. Mr. Butler never told me that he had allowed Cohall to go home; and the assertion made by Cohall this day of that circumstance is the first that I have heard respecting it; he was restored to his watch after coming out of the hospital.

Mr. James Black, Book-keeper on Cardiff Hall; sworn.

I am aware of Cohall's being tried by Mr. Sowley; he was sentenced to receive 20 stripes in the St. Ann's house of correction. I copied the commitment myself; the commitment stated that he was to receive 20 stripes. After his return from the workhouse he was admitted into the hospital, and remained there for a few weeks; he then went out to his work.

WEDNESDAY, 4 October 1837.

Mr. Butler, formerly Book-keeper on Cardiff Hall; sworn.

One morning, I do not remember dates, I saw Thomas Cohall bringing Thomas Hull to the barbecues; I asked what Thomas Hull wanted; Cohall said he had brought him to assist him to watch. I allowed him to remain; this was at dusk. About two hours after I came out of my room, to see if all was right, and the watchman there; I found Thomas Hull standing on the barbecues, which had been disturbed, as if some of the pimento had been taken away. I passed on to the end of the barbecue to see if I could discover any person loitering about; I there found a bag of pimento. The pimento was cast off the barbecue, and Hull was standing at the spot where it appeared to have been taken. I inquired of him for Cohall; he gave me no decisive answer, but told me he had stepped out. I made him carry the pimento into my room, and lock it up. Cohall never asked me on that evening for permission to go away as he was sick, and to get another man to watch for him; I did not give him leave to go away that evening. No express was sent for the special magistrate; he came the next day to visit the property; he came on the estate to pay his usual visit. He begged me very hard not to mention the circumstance to the overseer, and got a man named Gordon to beg, but I thought it my duty to mention it to the overseer. My opinion is that both Cohall and Hull were concerned in the robbery; Cohall was sentenced to receive 20 lashes.

James Carter's Case.

TUESDAY, 3 October 1837.

James Carter, Apprentice to Cardiff Hall; sworn.

I was working on a ground on the Catherine Warren side; my grandfather and grandmother used to work the same ground. Busha took away the ground after the provisions had grown some height; he went into the ground and pulled all the provisions, and made the watchman cut up with his cutlass what he did not pull up. I was working at Orange Valley; and a tree, which a man was falling, smashed my foot, and I went to the hospital. After the wound got well I returned to my work, and was taken to Brown's-town, where I was called by the police. When I got home I went to the hospital. I went to the doctor-man, and asked him to bleed me; he said he could not do it then, but gave me a dose of salt physic. After taking it, busha made the doctor-man, William Nash, and the bookkeeper, Mr. Black, put me in the bilboes. I do not know how long I was confined; I had fits when I was in the stocks. When I got well I returned to my work. At the time my foot got mashed by the fall of the tree, and was injured, I went to the hothouse; and when the foot was near getting well, busha took and put my foot in the bilboes two nights and three days. He only allowed me a little time to wash my foot in the morning; and I could not get any water in the hospital to drink, and busha would not allow me to go to the negro-houses to get any.

Thomas White, an Apprentice to Cardiff Hall; sworn.

I remember James Carter being in the hothouse and the stocks; he had a sore foot. I never remember his having a fit in the stocks. He said that he was working and cutting wood at Orange Valley; and, after cutting a tree, a part of it ran down and hurt his foot. He came to the hospital; I was there at the time, and his feet, and those of the rest of the sore-footed people, were put by busha in the stocks. One Wednesday evening, busha was at the stall serving beef, and there was no dressing out for dressing the feet. When busha came home the doctor-man went to the overseer for dressing. When he came back, he said that the busha had asked whether he had placed the sore-footed people in the stocks. He

replied

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replied, "No;" and the busha asking him why he had not done so, he answered that there was no dressing out. Busha then sent another man to see whether the people's feet were in the stocks or not. The man was named William Nash; the doctor-man is named William James. Nash went back and told the busha that the people's feet were not in the stocks. The busha sent by William Nash, and put William James in the dark room for not doing so. The dark room was in the hospital; and directly as William Nash put William James into the dark room, there was the busha appeared in hospital, who met James Carter, with the calabash and dressing in his hand, just going to dress his feet. He said, "Why did not you dress your feet before?" and got very angry. Directly he met up James Carter, and began to shove him. He shoved him into the dark room, where the stocks are; and by the way he was shoving James Carter, the water and the dressing were all thrown away. James Carter said, "What is busha shoving me in this way for; busha should not shove me in this way; he is taking an advantage of me; I was put on my work, and had my foot cut; I come to the hospital, and if busha don't allow me to have my foot dressed, how am I to dress it." Busha then said, "I will put you in the stocks, for you should have dressed your feet long before this." Busha then put his feet in the stocks, which he locked, and then took away the key. At five o'clock he gave William Nash the key to come and pull James Carter's feet out of the stocks, for him to go and wash them. The feet were washed, and he was clapped back in the stocks, which was locked, and the key carried back to the overseer. He was in the stocks two nights and three days. After he was pulled out of the stocks, on Friday evening, to have his feet dressed, he pretended as if he were going to wash his feet; but instead of doing so, he ran away to Orange Valley, to complain to Mr. Miller, who he understood was there; but Mr. Miller was sick in bed, and did not see him. He was followed by William Nash, who took him up and brought him back. After fetching him back, Nash went and told the overseer, who ordered the head-constable and Nash to carry him to Brown's-town. He was carried to Brown's-town, and on his return he was brisker than Nash or the head-constable, and ran into the hothouse first. He said to the doctor-man, James, "Doctor, I beg you to bleed me;" he said, "No, I can't bleed you to-day, for you have bled enough already; I will give you a dose of salts. Get me a pan of water." James Carter then said, "There is no water in the hospital-house." The doctor-man then told him to go to the overseer's house for some. I did not go up with him to see what passed, but just as he was coming out of the kitchen, I saw the overseer riding up. When he came down to the hospital, I said, "What did the busha say to you?" He replied, "The busha said, 'If you had been flogged at Brown's-town to-day, you would not have come up to take dinner with me now.'" Directly the busha got very vexed, and sent the head-bookkeeper, Mr. Black, and the head-constable, to tell William Nash that he thought he had given him orders to put James Carter into the stocks after bringing him from Brown's-town. Mr. Black said that he would put James Carter into the dark room. James Carter said he would not go there; that he had not been placed there before; but Mr. Black insisted that he should. James Carter said he would not go to the dark room either for Mr. Black or Benjamin, the head-constable, or for William Nash; he said that twice; and Mr. Black saying that he would have him go into the dark room, William Nash held him round his waist, and took him up and threw him on the bed. Benjamin called me out to assist, and put James Carter in the stocks. I said, "No, I would not have anything to do with it." After throwing him on the bed, Benjamin took hold of the feet, William James lifted up the stocks, and James Carter's feet were then put in, when he, James Carter, fell into a fit. After they put him into the stocks they locked it, and went away leaving him in the fit. I then went into the room where he was, and saw one of his feet in the stocks and the other on the ground. I raised his head up by putting a mat under it, and took up his foot from the ground and put it on the bed, *i. e.* the platform so called. I called to William James, and said, "You had better go and look to James Carter; you are the doctor-man, and if anything comes against you I will be a witness for it." He replied, "What can I do?" He said, "The head-bookkeeper and the head-constable put him in, and the same them put him in, the same he will remain." I then told him he had better send for the constable, as he was lying very bad. He then sent directly to call Benjamin from his house, who immediately after he came ran to the overseer for the key, and told him that James Carter had died away in the stocks. Benjamin came back and took his feet out, and the doctor-man ran up to the overseer, who came down himself directly. He got very vexed, and said that he did not order him to be put into the dark room. Benjamin said it was the bookkeeper ordered him to do it. The overseer ran and took a new bottle of hartshorn, and rubbed James Carter with some of it. He clapped also his feet and hands in hot water, and made a little toddy to give to him; but with all they did, he did not speak. A spoon was constantly kept in his mouth, and turned about to keep the jaw from being locked. This was on Saturday afternoon, and he never spoke until Sunday, about eight o'clock. I asked him then where hurt him; he did not speak, but laid his hand on his breast. In a half hour after he died away the same way; the busha could get no rest for it, and no doctor was near. Busha went on Monday to Antrim and got Doctor Greaves, the new doctor. After the doctor came, he gave him many things, and asked him where he felt pain. He put his hand on his breast. The doctor mixed up and left several things with me to give him, and on Tuesday he was a little better. Busha attended him very well in the hospital, and gave him every thing that was necessary; he could not attend him better, and gave him a woman to take care of him.

WEDNESDAY, 4 October 1837.

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Mr. *Joseph Osborne*, Overseer of Cardiff-hall; sworn.

About a year and a half ago, or probably more, the provision-ground belonging to the house was nearly worn out. We have a run of land called "Catherine Warren," which had not been wrought probably for 30 years, in high wood, and I selected a piece in the form of a cock-pit, containing probably about three acres; I sent the people, and they felled part of this land, and the other part I marked, so that none of the apprentices should go to it; I made them fully acquainted with my having done this. There is abundance of ground, several hundred of acres, which the apprentices might take for their grounds. I went to the mountain some week after this land had been fallen, and I found that nine or ten different families had commenced to cut and plant the very ground that I had selected for the house use. I pointed out to all the head people the impropriety of their doing so, and told them that I would not allow it: several of them declined going farther, and gave up what they had done. James Carter and John Edwards still continued to work that ground, and enlarged it. I afterwards remonstrated with James Carter and John Edwards, when the latter begged me to allow his provisions to remain until they were full, and he would take them out. Carter still continued making his larger, and went to the attorney and special magistrate; he got no redress from either, but was censured by both the attorney and special magistrate, Mr. Sowley; notwithstanding he still continued to enlarge that ground, consequently I went to the mountain and took up the watchman, and ordered him to take out his provisions; he again replanted the same ground, and after a great to do himself he gave it up. I had repeated conversations with Doctor Johnson respecting the patients leaving the hospital, and especially those who had sore feet; the doctor found a great deal of fault with it himself, and even remarked in the books, that he had visited the hospital, and found the patients all absent; this was at a time when there were upwards of 20 people on the sick list. That continued for a time, and having a very careless doctor-man, Doctor Johnson found it necessary to note in the book, that those who had sore feet and would not comply with the hothouse regulations (by which means the sores were kept for a long time from healing), should be put in the bilboes.

The hospital-book was here produced, and the following extracts directed to be taken therefrom:

12th May 1836.—Those with sores to be prohibited from leaving the hospital or walking about; the ulcerated limbs to be kept as much as possible in a horizontal position. Should they refuse to submit to this necessary restraint, one of the feet may be put in the bilboes, as has hitherto been customary.

(signed) *Thomas Johnson*, Surgeon.

8th June.—All the patients absent.

Mr. *Osborne*, in continuation.—James Carter is one of the most obstinate men that I have ever had under my charge; he came to me on the 20th April last, at Orange Valley, with a slight cut on his toe; I directed him to go home to the hospital. I make a general rule to inspect the hospital, and examine each patient in the hospital, calling their names over from the list book. On Monday the 8th of May I found that Carter's sore was daily growing worse, and I cautioned him that it was going to turn into yaws; the cause of the sore getting worse was his repeated absence from the hospital. Next day, between nine and ten o'clock, seeing the people walking about the yard, with the intention, no doubt, to leave it during my absence, I went down to the hospital, and took William Nash with me, the then ranger on the property; I most solemnly declare I neither put my hand on Carter nor any other apprentice on that occasion, nor assaulted him in any way. I found fault with the doctor-man for not having the people's sores dressed before that time of the day, and I desired him to be put in the lock-up room, which is a large room with a terraced floor, on the first story. This order was given to William Nash; the back-door was open, and the doctor-man went out immediately. I told William Nash, at the same time, to put the people with sore feet in the stocks; Carter, on hearing this, swore that no man should confine him, that he knew the law too well to allow it; he continued making a disturbance that day and night, the whole of the next day and the day following. One of his feet had been put in the stocks on the day after he commenced this turbulent conduct. On the evening of the day that Carter was put into the stocks, I told Nash to be very cautious and careful, and desired him not to go too far from the yard at any time, also to give him everything that he required, and to allow him to go out whenever he applied to him to go for the purposes of nature, or anything he required, as he was not put for punishment, but sanitary restraint. I desired Nash also not to allow him to go to Mr. Miller, at Orange Valley, as he said he would do, as Mr. Miller was sick, and would not be able to see him. On Thursday evening he made his escape from William Nash, and went off; he was brought back the next morning by William Nash, and appeared penitent and wished to beg; I told him that I had heard much of his insolence at different times, and that his day would come to meet punishment, and that I would not excuse him. I gave him in charge to William Nash, desiring him to carry him to Brown's-town court next morning. The next morning I sent the head-constable to go with Nash; he admitted the charge brought against him at his trial, of disorderly conduct and insolence, to be correct, alleging that passion

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had got the better of him. He was sentenced to receive 25 stripes by the police, but I did not remain to see the infliction of the punishment, as I had not brought him up from vindictive motives. On my return home, about two o'clock, I found him in the overseer's kitchen; he was then showing off a great deal of insolence and boldness. I asked him what he was doing, and he told me very boldly that he had come for water; I ordered him off to the hospital; it is probable that I asked him, seeing his boldness, whether he had come to take dinner with me. I reproved Mr. Black, the bookkeeper, for allowing the hospital-people to come to the house for water, as they have a doctor-man and nurse whose duty it is to supply those things. The nurse is a very attentive woman. I told Mr. Black that as Carter did not appear to care for his punishment, and still have a sore toe, to go to the hospital and put him in the stocks. Mr. Black went, and finding him obstinate as hitherto, procured the assistance of Benjamin, the head-constable, or William Nash, to put him in the stocks. About dusk I was called by one of the people, who said that James Carter was sick; and I replied that if he is sick he must be attended to, and I went myself to the hospital, where I found him in a fit, caused, I believe, from passion; he is very much subject to fits, one of which lasted him, in February gone, for several hours, during which time I attended him, so did I on the present occasion; I administered all that I thought likely to restore him. I could not procure the assistance of Dr. Johnson, as he was not in the neighbourhood, and the next morning I procured the assistance of Doctor Greaves, who on examining him said that Carter was making the worst of his sickness, and that the flogging might have caused the fit. A few days afterwards he voluntarily left the hospital, and went to his work; nothing then transpired until a letter in the Falmouth Post of the 24th May met my eye. I did not take any notice of that letter, but I considered it my duty to write and inclose the letter to my employers, with a statement from myself of the circumstances as they occurred.

Gentlemen,

Cardiff Hall, St. Ann's, 16 June 1837.

Having noticed in the "Falmouth Post" of the 24th May, an article signed by John Clarke, Baptist missionary, and purposed to be a true statement of James Carter, an apprentice, belonging to this property, on whom he accuses me of having committed several acts of oppression; with a view to remove from your mind every impression it may have made as to my being guilty of such inhuman acts as stated, I beg leave to lay before you a few remarks in refutation thereof, which I am prepared to prove, being a true and unsought for account of the charges therein preferred against me.

James Carter is a man 24 years of age, a troublesome and idle-disposed apprentice, and for years he appears to have been so by the plantation book. He was admitted into the hospital on the 20th of April with a sore toe, and on the 9th May I found his sore was daily growing worse, from his walking about and leaving the hospital. I then, in compliance with the 9th clause of the Act in Aid, and agreeably to the prescriptions inserted in the book by Dr. Johnson, ordered William Nash, who is a trustworthy head-man on the property, to put him in sanitary restraint, which was the stocks, in the main hall of the hospital, where he was kept until Friday the 12th, but not for punishment; it was merely to restrain him, to allow his sore to get well; when Carter heard this order given, he arose in a great passion, and dared any person to attempt to confine him, and said that he knew the law too well himself to allow it; his conduct was so outrageous for several days in succession, that I kept William Nash to attend him in all his wants, that he might have no cause for complaint, or say that I acted contrary to law.

With respect to his being struck, collared, or confined in the dungeon without food or water, the charge is without a shadow of truth, neither was he in any way molested; and he has since admitted having stated a falsehood. As a check on all such conduct, and for example's sake, I took him to the special magistrates' court, where he in his defence admitted the charge to be true, and said the time he did so he was overheated with passion; his sentence was 25 lashes from the police, which I did not see inflicted, as his punishment did not proceed from any vindictive feeling of mine. After what I have stated, and on his return to the property, I found him in the overseer's kitchen, and on my ordering him to the hospital, was equally as before; he then insulted Mr. Black, the head bookkeeper, and afterwards wrought himself into such a state of passion, that he fell into fits, a complaint he has frequently been subject to before, although a strong man. As regards his faintings, &c., they were nothing more or less than what I have related, for shortly after he left the hospital and found his way to Messrs. Clarke and Oughton, a distance more than nine miles. You are aware that upwards of 300 apprentices are under my charge as overseer, and during the last 19 months only eight cases of punishment has taken place, which were as follows: two constables, for neglect of duty and encouraging indolence; one watchman, for wilfully suffering strange stock to trespass on the property; one man for stealing pimento from the barbecues; two men for robbing the apprentices' grounds, and breaking open their houses; also, one female, a week on the treadmill, for insolence to the constable and bookkeeper; and James Carter for the above charge. I trust that after your perusing this statement, together with the affidavit of William Nash, which is hereunto annexed, will convince you how I have been calumniated, and I hope shortly that Mr. Clarke will find out how far he is misled by false statements.

I am, &c.

(signed) *Joseph Osborne.*To George Marrett, William Miller,
and Frederick Core, Esqrs.

Jamaica,

Jamaica, ss.] Personally appeared before me William Nash, an apprentice on Cardiff St. Ann. Hall, in the parish aforesaid, who being duly sworn, maketh oath, and saith, that on Friday the 9th May he was in the hospital of Cardiff Hall, when Mr. Joseph Osborne, the overseer, visited the sick; that he heard James Carter give the overseer a great deal of insolence, which he continued to repeat daily; that the deponent was close to the overseer, and never saw him strike James Carter, or make any attempt to do so; that he himself never collared the same James, nor took him up bodily, neither was he ever put in any dungeon; and as far as regards want of food or water, that he, the deponent, most positively swears, that he took to the said James herrings and bread kind himself, and that as regards the debility of faintings, that James Carter walked so fast, that he, the deponent, could not keep up with him on his way to and from Brown's-town; this deponent also swears, that he saw food taken by the direction of Mr. Osborne to the said James Carter.

Dated this 30th May 1837.

his
William + Nash.
mark.

Sworn before me, after reading the contents, and asking the deponent if it was true, this

30th May 1837.

(signed) Samuel B. Barnett.

Some time after the publication of the statement in the "Falmouth Post," Carter admitted to me that he had told a lie against me, and that it was not his own doings that took him to Clarke, but alluded to the person who took him, who I believe to be Thomas Cohall. He also said that all that was published was not related by him.

Mr. Black, Book-keeper on Cardiff Hall; sworn.

On the evening of the day that James Carter received his punishment at Brown's-town, Mr. Osborne, on his return home, asked me why I allowed people from the hospital to be about the yard; that he had just observed James Carter coming from the kitchen with a pan in his hand, in a very bold manner, and as if he did not mind the punishment he had received; he told me to go and see him put into the stocks with the rest of the people who had sore feet. Carter refused to be put into the stocks, and I sent for the head-constable to put him in; Carter still refused to go in, and the head-constable called upon William Nash, William James, and Thomas White, to assist him; White refused, and the other two and the head-constable put him in the stocks, which I locked, and went away, taking the key with me, and leaving James Carter perfectly well; this was between three and four o'clock in the evening. I was called about five o'clock by Mr. Osborne, who sent me to the hospital to see what was the matter with James Carter, as a person had come up to him saying he was sick; on going down, I found him in a fit, and took him out of the stocks. Mr. Osborne, who came down, ordered me to pay every attention to Carter, and give him all that he required; I did so. Carter is always a troublesome boy, talking a great deal; this has always been his character, but he does his work very well when he is on it. When there is any dispute as to time, and being worked too long, Thomas Cohall and Thomas White are generally the first to complain.

William Nash, Head-constable to Cardiff Hall, about 40 years of age; sworn.

I know James Carter; I know the ground that busha marked off; James Carter worked inside the line where busha marked off; it was thrown up from the time I was a boy; the place was never worked in my time. I remember when Carter was in the hospital, before he was sent to Brown's Town, he was very insolent to the busha; busha came into the hothouse about half-past eight or nine in the morning, and met James Carter with a calabash with water, going to wash his foot; busha asked him where he was going, and he told him, and busha then desired him to go back, as he should have dressed his foot before then; busha ordered him in the stocks; he said he would not go, and busha laid hold of him by his shirt, and turned him round, saying he should go; the water did not throw away; busha gave me orders to put him in the stocks, and I put my hand on him, and said, "Why don't you obey busha's orders as well as the rest?" He replied, "Daddy, for your sake, as you ask me, I will go;" he then went on the bed, and his brother lifted up the stocks, and I put his foot in: he began to jaw then, saying, that the busha had imposed upon, and taken an advantage of him, and that as soon as he got out he would go and complain to his master, meaning the attorney, Mr. Miller or Marrett; every attention was paid to him. On Thursday he escaped, after being let out to dress his leg, and went to Orange Valley, where Mr. Miller was, but he did not see him. I went after him, took him, and brought him to the busha; he begged hard to be forgiven, acknowledging having been insolent; busha said he had been so often insolent to him that he would not forgive him; he was put in the stocks, and brought up the following Saturday before Mr. Rawlinson, at Brown's-town; he was sentenced to receive 25 lashes. After the punishment he was taken back to Cardiff Hall, where I was ordered by busha to put him in the hothouse; this order was given at Brown's-town; he was found by busha at the kitchen, where he went to get water, and was sent down by busha in charge of the book-keeper to be put in the stocks; he refused to go in, and Mr. Black called to me to assist to put him; I said, you had better wait till the head-constable comes; when the head-constable

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stable came he lifted the stocks; Mr. Black held his foot, and I put it in the hole. He complained after that of his stomach, between seven and eight o'clock, and busha came down; that is all I know of it.

James Carter recalled.—I remember going to Mr. Clarke, the minister, to tell him what I thought I had to complain of; Thomas Cohall went with me; nobody advised me to go; my own heart told me to go, as I felt I had been punished wrongfully; I told Thomas Cohall that I heard that Mr. Clarke was willing to see justice done as well for an apprentice as for a white man, and that I would go to him; and Thomas Cohall said, "If you wish to go, you may, but I do not send you; but I will walk up with you to Brown's town." He did so, and I went to Mr. Clarke, and told him what I had to say. I heard afterwards that a paper was published, in which my complaint to Mr. Clarke was mentioned; busha never mentioned about the paper to me, nor did I ever make any acknowledgment to him that more was published than what I stated to Mr. Clarke.

Encl 13, in No. 50.

Enclosure 13, in No. 50.

Edward Gunn's Case, Apprentice to Mr. Knox.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

Taken at *Brown's Town*, in the Parish of *St. Ann's*, in the case of *Edward Gunn*, an Apprentice to Mr. John Knox, of Dry Harbour, New Wharf.

MONDAY, 2 October 1837.

Edward Gunn; sworn.

MASSA called me to weigh coffee by the scale one Monday. We called the constable after weighing it, and he made four of us put it in the store. After the constable made us put the coffee in master locked the door and carried the key to the counting-house; from that the store was never opened till Tuesday morning. When my master opened the door he found that some coffee had been stolen, and he called me and asked me if it was so the coffee stood yesterday. I said, No; that I knew nothing about it. Master said, "You must tell me." I replied, I was not the watchman. Master then said, "If you don't know who took the coffee, give me your room-door key." I gave it to him, and he took two constables with him and searched my house, but did not find any coffee. From that I was minding my work, knowing nothing about it. They called magistrate, Mr. Rawlinson, and they carried me to Queenhithe and catted me. (The man here pulled off his shirt and showed his back, exhibiting the marks of a severe flogging thereon, the sores of which had been evidently neglected.) I was flogged by John Clarke, or George Clarke, the constable at Queenhithe. After the flogging massa would not allow anybody to bathe my back, and the flies took it; if it had not been for strangers I would have been a dead man. This was about two years and a half ago.

William Reid, an Apprentice to Dunbarton, but hired to Mr. Knox at the time; sworn.

Edward Gunn was given to me to be taken to Queenhithe to cat. I saw the coffee brought to the wharf and locked up in the store. I did not see it again till it was taken out of the store. I did not know why, but Mr. Knox took it out and weighed it again, and said some were missing; the cask did not appear to have been opened. I was with him when he searched Gunn's house, but no coffee was found. I took him to Queenhithe, where he received a severe flogging, under the sentence of Mr. Rawlinson. He was tied to one of the hind wheels of the waggon. He was tried at Dry Harbour. The cask did not weigh so much when it was taken out of the storehouse; it was much lighter. I never saw Mr. or Mrs. Knox take any pains to have the back dressed, nor did I see them turn Gunn away.

George Clarke, a Constable on Queenhithe; sworn.

I know Edward Gunn; I flogged him; nobody told me how many lashes he was to have. Mr. Burbridge, the then overseer of Queenhithe, told me to flog him well, that he came up to be punished, and I must give it to him well; he stood near to me and told me to flog. I flogged very hard with a knotted cat. The cat is kept in Queenhithe busha's house. The back was very bad after the flogging, and the man laid down; he was flogged with both hands and feet tied to the waggon wheel. The feet and the hands were all extended and tied. After the flogging, when Edward Gunn was loosened, he laid down from the effects of the flogging.

Busha sent me the next day to Mr. Knox for sugar, telling me that Mr. Knox would pay me for flogging the man. Mr. Knox gave me a maccaroni.

On a question from Mr. Knox, *Edward Gunn* said, "I went near the house and asked a woman who was about the place to dress my back, and when Mrs. Knox saw it she quarrelled with the woman, and told her that she was a field woman and had no right to trouble with it. When I showed my back, which had been taken by flies, to both Mr. Williams and Mr. John Knox, Mr. William Knox drove me away, and said to me, "What right had you to go and steal coffee?" No doctor ever saw my back. This was the first time I have ever been flogged since the apprenticeship."

William

William Reid, recalled.—Said the staves of the tierce were not properly put in, and while we were rolling the tierce into the store the coffee got out; it kept working out all the way that we were rolling, about 100 yards, or possibly less. I cannot say what quantity got out. I have never been punished during the apprenticeship; and when I am sick, if I go to master for a dose of physic I get it, and never saw Mr. Knox punish any man under sentence of a magistrate except Edward Gunn and a man named Joseph, since the apprenticeship.

Mr. *Knox* said, when the coffee had been lodged in the store, I went to the counting-house and returned in about a quarter of an hour and did not observe anything then to excite my suspicions. I did not miss the coffee stolen until the next morning. I do not think that there was any mistake in the weighing of the coffee, nor do I recollect the nature of the evidence adduced before the special magistrate, Mr. Rawlinson.

William Reid, recalled by the request of Mr. Knox, and said, I remember seeing Edward Gunn take up a cake of soap and break it in two; he carried it out and was caught by Mr. Knox, who took it away from him. I never was called upon to swear to this before Captain T. H. Dillon.

It was afterwards stated by *Edward Gunn*, that in carrying soap to the storehouse a cake fell out and broke; Reid took one half and I the other, and the master, Mr. Knox, coming up, asked what right they had to take it. They were taken before the special magistrate, and only admonished, at the request of Mr. Knox.

Mr. *Daughtry* here stated, that when Mr. William Knox had absolute proof of a theft he did not press his charge; but, on the other hand, upon mere suspicion, Edward Gunn had been charged and sentenced to punishment, which, from all appearance, appeared to be a very brutal one.

Edward Gunn, recalled.—Since my master has gone off no doctor has ever seen my sore leg; Master William came and asked me how I did, but no doctor came. When provisions are scarce massa have flour in the store; if you carry him a fivepenny for flour you get it, if not, you starve. He gives a pint of flour for a fivepenny, a pint of rice for a fivepenny, but never get any corn from him.

TUESDAY, 3 October 1837.

Mr. *John Ellis*, Clerk and Wharfinger to Mr. Knox in 1835; sworn.

About the middle or latter end of April 1835 a cask of coffee was sent to the wharf; Edward Gunn, Sam Ellis and Richard Weightman had charge of the cask, to put it up in the store after it was weighed: it is my belief that the cask came down with a broken stave on the bilge, but that, from the press of business, we had not time to stop with the people during the time that they were putting it in the store. On opening the door the next morning, the broken stave of the cask was next to the door, and appeared to have been prized up with something or another, so as to allow the coffee to run out. It was evident, from the mark on the ground, that a great deal of coffee was gathered up. The cask was rolled out and weighed, and was found to have lost about 40 or 50 lbs.

The three men were charged with the theft, but denied it; their rooms were searched accordingly; but whether any coffee was found then or not, I do not know. They were taken before Mr. Rawlinson, the special magistrate, and of course there must have been evidence sufficient for his sentencing them to be flogged; but he told them, if they would pay for the coffee they should not be flogged, which one of them promised to do. Sam Ellis was the one who promised to pay; the other two did not promise to pay, and they were being sent to Queenhithe to be flogged there, when the man Richard made his escape. Edward, therefore, was the only one who was taken up and flogged. To the best of my recollection, 25 lashes were ordered; his back, when he came home, was cut, but not more so than any other negro's would have been; but, by his applying leaves of different descriptions, the back became very blistered and sore, and I myself have often spoken to him of the evil that would result from his keeping them on: when he thought proper he took off the leaves, and the back became dried. I repeatedly saw his back after that, which was always covered with a handkerchief. The oil-nut leaf was one of the description of leaves he had on his back; he had other leaves on it, but I do not remember what sort.

On questions from the court, Mr. Ellis said, I do not recollect whether any coffee was found at the time of the search; nor do I recollect whether I gave evidence at the time of the trial before the special magistrate, being so long ago, it being now two years and a half since the circumstance.

Question by Mr. Knox.] Did you credit any of my brother's negroes flour, or rice, or corn during the week, to be paid out of their half a dollar on Saturday?—*Answer.* I have often done so. Mr. Knox's negroes have been paid regularly, for the last 11 years, half a dollar per week; and, from the scarcity of bread-kind lately, we sold them flour, rice, and corn at first cost, that is, giving a quart of flour for a fivepenny, and about a pint and a half of rice for a fivepenny, which they paid for with the half of dollar that they receive. This was done because they could not get it for double and treble the price elsewhere. I have repeatedly given them flour and rice in advance after their allowance was all spent, which they paid for out of their allowance on the following Saturday. Two barrels of herrings were also served out to them in addition to their allowance; the two barrels of herrings were served out in the course of six months.

Q. Did you consider that you were serving the negroes by crediting them?—*A.* I did; because their allowances were all spent before the end of the week.

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Q. Did they ever try to cheat you out of a fivepenny or a tenpenny when they were paid their allowance on Saturdays?—A. They have repeatedly done so, and in consequence I stopped giving them flour and rice in advance; this has been only for the last two weeks.

Q. Did Edward get the same allowance of rice and flour as the other negroes?—A. Yes, he did: there was no difference made among them.

Q. Did Edward Gunn ever get herrings gratis?—A. I cannot swear to that, as they were served at the wharf by the wharfinger.

Q. Do you believe that he got them?—A. I do believe that he did.

Q. Are you aware of Edward's having been attended by Dr. Hylton when he had the sore leg?—A. I am aware that he was attended by Dr. Hylton, who prescribed calabash and turpentine for his leg.

Mr. Knox having for a moment questioned the accuracy of the report, it was read to him at length: he then admitted that it was perfectly correct, and the court ordered a minute to be made of such admission.

At this period of the proceedings Mr. *Mallet*, the overseer of Dunbarton, who was present, said, that the investigation of the charges made against him by the apprentices of that property had occupied considerable time, and he felt much pleasure in acknowledging that the testimony of the several witnesses had been taken down with the greatest precision and impartiality. He, at the same time, admitted, that the court had afforded him every facility in rebutting the charges made against him.

Question by Mr. Knox.] Do you remember seeing any coffee on the track where the tierce was rolled from the scales to the store?—*Answer*. I cannot positively say.

Q. Did Joseph's back appear as bad from the effects of the flogging which he received as Edward's?—A. I could not say; but his back (Joseph's) was welled up in a few weeks: his age was about 18.

Q. Had coffee been found in the negro-houses, would you have considered it good evidence as to the theft?—A. I really could not answer.

Mr. *William Knox*; sworn.

I was present at the court-house; I searched the three houses; I believe that I did not find any coffee in the search, but will not speak more definitively. Had I found any, I would have made it a matter of evidence before the special magistrate: I believe that there was not any coffee produced at the trial as a part of any found in the houses of the party implicated.

William Noad, an Apprentice to Mr. Knox; sworn.

When I went with my master to search the negro-houses at the time of the loss of the coffee, there was no coffee found in them.

Mr. *William Knox* here tendered the following statement on oath to the court, after having read it:

(Copy.)

I, William Knox, do most solemnly declare, that to the best of my knowledge and belief, about two years and half ago a cask of coffee was received at the wharf; I weighed it, and Edward Gunn, Richard Weightman and Sam Ellis were the ones to put it up in the store; this I believe happened in the afternoon; how long after its being weighed before I noticed the pilferage, I cannot positively say, but I think it was next morning; when I found a stave broken at the bilge, and the appearance of coffee having been taken out, I called the constables, had the cask rolled out and taken to the scales and re-weighed, when I found 50 or 60 pounds short. I made a search among the negro-rooms, but found no coffee, as far as I can recollect. I then investigated the matter, and found that only the above-named three were about the cask during the time the store was open, and on which evidence they were found guilty by Mr. Rawlinson. All the particulars of the case I cannot now recollect, having no written document to refer to, to refresh my memory; although no positive evidence can now be procured, I have no doubt but that at the time of trial lawful evidence was brought forward. I cannot swear as to size of the hole in the cask, but must have considered it large enough to admit of the quantity mentioned above to have been taken out of it. I do not recollect seeing any coffee on the ground where the cask was rolled, and think I must have seen it when I went to lock the door had there been any. Unless I was to guess at things, I cannot now state how long I might have been absent from the store, or how the negroes were employed when I went to lock it. I recollect Mr. Rawlinson told them that if they paid for the coffee, the sentence he had pronounced would be null and void. Sam Ellis promised to pay his part, therefore was not catted, but whether he paid all or any I do not recollect. Richard escaped from the constable, therefore did not get his desert, and has never done a week's work for my brother since, being a runaway. Having no cat at the wharf, I requested Mr. Rawlinson to allow me to take Edward to Queenhithe, as there was a cat there; I went and saw it done; Mr. Burbridge was present, and I think counted the lashes aloud; I paid attention to it, and am positive that no more than ordered was given. Joseph Hutchison received the same number at the same time, but for another offence, and his back was well in a few weeks and no blotches on it. Dr. Barnett and Dr. Hylton were paid yearly for attending my brother's concerns, and I am sure that a doctor never was refused when required, and I positively swear that I never drove away Edward when his back was sore from the flogging, and I am sure was often attended to by Mr. Knox's orders, and that he only injured it when he applied his own remedies. I also swear that the store in which the coffee was had close boarded doors and not railed gates, and that the same doors

doors are still in the same stores now. I think I would have been highly culpable, as a public wharfinger, had I not done every thing in my power to find out the thieves and have them punished, although I trust I am a Christian, and have got a tender feeling for the unfortunate. On the 1st of August 1834, my brother was possessed of 13 negroes, nine of which never was punished by a special magistrate, except that some of them might have been a few hours in the cage; of the remaining four, one was only punished once, two, once or twice, and the other, a woman, was sent to the workhouse, and the last punishment was about two and a half years ago. Out of five hired, once only one was ever punished, and the other four I believe never was ever in the cage. The magistrates yesterday found great fault with me for not punishing two negroes some time before, for stealing half a cake of soap each; as far as I can recollect, my reasons for not doing so were these, I was never an advocate for severity, even when they were slaves; this happened soon after the 1st of August 1834, and our negroes were very unsettled at the time; I brought them all before Captain Dillon, who said he would reason with them, (I do not think I was sworn,) I stated what I had against each of them, and mentioned Edward's having stolen soap, but suppressed Reid's name, on account of never having known him guilty of the like before, but Edward several times of different thefts, but did not bring any one to trial. I positively swear that when Edward had a sore leg, I went along with Doctor Hylton, who prescribed for him, and that I went and put the powder ordered on his leg, and within these last two months I have distributed to him and the other negroes two barrels of herrings. I may also mention that I was severely censured for my cruelty in complying with Mr. Rawlinson's decision as regards the coffee (as being too atrocious to be committed by an Englishman or a Christian).

Dr. Samuel B. Barnett; sworn.

I am, perhaps, the most intimate friend that Mr. John Knox has in the island, and at the period alluded to in 1835, was in the habit of seeing him two or three times a week. I have attended his family, including his wharf-negroes, for the last eleven years, as his medical practitioner. Edward had the misfortune, in a fight, I think, to receive a severe injury in his hand; I was compelled to amputate the finger from the joint, and to show the humanity of Mr. Knox upon the occasion, he had him brought to my residence, where the operation was performed, and where Mr. Knox invariably sent wine and every other refreshment that he thought would make the unfortunate patient comfortable. The man himself has always shown the greatest degree of gratitude for my attention towards him. I saw him once after he was flogged, and might have seen him three times a week had he wished to come to me; it appeared that he was ashamed of showing me his back, as I admonished him for having behaved ill, and that he should be found in that plight, having been punished by order of a court of justice. The negroes of Mr. Knox were always in the habit of applying to me themselves for medical advice, whenever I drove into the premises, and were never prevented from coming to me.

Enclosure 14, in No. 50.

Encl. 14, in No. 50.

Elizabeth Osborn's Case, of Knapdale.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

Taken at *Brown's Town*, in the Parish of *St. Ann*, respecting an apprenticed labourer to Knapdale Estate, named *Elizabeth Osborn*.

MONDAY, 25 September 1837.

Elizabeth Osborn, an Apprentice to Knapdale; sworn.

BEFORE I was sent to the workhouse I was locked up in the dungeon at the works, for about a week and a half; I was in the workhouse for 10 days, and was put on the treadmill twice a day, and I was not able to keep the step; my feet were all mashed up, and the blood ran from them; I was sent to the sea to wash them. The first and second day Mr. Drake took the cat and catted me, but not afterwards; they found fault with me every day for not keeping the step; I took two days to walk home, from the badness of my legs; they were all sore and bandaged up; I was lame and leant upon a stick when I walked. I was laid up from May to August in the hospital with sore legs, which I got from the treadmill. Dr. Edward Tucke did not look at the sores; Mr. Clarke, the overseer, told me that he desired the doctor not to look at the sores, as there was no occasion to bother about them. Before I was better the overseer wanted to turn me out of the hospital, but the constable told him that the legs were too bad: when I did go to work I went straight to the great gang; my stomach then pained me a great deal, particularly when I was digging cane-holes. I was ordered to cut grass one Saturday and two Sundays, to pay back the time I lost when I was in the workhouse; the constable said that it was the overseer's orders that I should do so; when I was in the workhouse all the women slept in one room; we slept with the chains round our necks, and our feet in the shackles; the driver used to come before daybreak to open the door that we might go and work on the mill; one night, about the middle of the night, one of the drivers opened the door and came in; he wanted to take out Catherine Bayley for a bad purpose. I heard him and Amelia Lawrence almost as good as fight about it, as she would not allow the girl, who was one of her massa negroes, go to him; it was quite dark; I don't know which of the drivers it was. On Sunday the women used to carry wood and water, cut grass, and clean Mr. Drake's yard, but we were

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not put on the treadmill on that day. I never saw any parson come to the workhouse, nor did I see any doctor; it is possible that the doctor might have come there when I was absent in the field. A quart either of corn or flour was given to each of us for our day's allowance of food; we used also to get a shad between two persons; this would not have been enough to feed us, if we had not been assisted by our friends outside; when they did not give us the shad, we used to get a little dry salt; when we were put on the treadmill we used to bawl out a great deal, and could have been heard at a distance; we were always flogged when we did not keep the step, and when we came off the mill we sunk on the ground quite faint, as we could not stand up; the perspiration used to stream down and wet our clothes as if water had been thrown on them; I was quite hearty before I went to the treadmill, but since then I have not felt so well, as it has given me an inward complaint. The charge made against me, for which I was sent to the workhouse, was made by the constable; it was for neglect of work in the field; the overseer put me in the dungeon from four o'clock in the evening till the next morning, and then sent me to Brown's-town, where I was tried by Mr. Rawlinson, who would not hear me, but sent me away immediately in charge of the police to the workhouse. The charge made against me was not only for neglecting my work in the field, but for causing others to do so. I have been in several parts of America for six years with some of the members of the family I belong to.

Frank Stewart, an Apprentice to Knapdale; sworn.

I was in the field at the time of the quarrel when Elizabeth Osborn got into trouble; the people were quarrelling for not getting their half Fridays; Mr. Rawlinson came on the property before breakfast-time, and I proposed that we should all go quietly to him, and ask him about it. Alexander Shand then went and told the constable that I said I would take Friday without asking, and that I would advise Eliza Osborn to do the same; Eliza Osborn and myself were put that evening in the dungeon, and brought next morning to Brown's-town, before Mr. Rawlinson, who ordered me to get 25 lashes, and be sent to the dungeon: I got my lashes by the police, and was sent back to my work at Knapdale to be put four nights in the dungeon.

Samuel Barrett, a Doctor-man on Knapdale; sworn.

I saw Eliza Osborn when she came from the treadmill; her feet were very bad with sores; they were much swelled, and tied up; she was obliged to use a stick to walk; she went to the hothouse and complained much of her side and legs. I am the doctor-man; she was in the hospital for some time, when busha came and turned her out to dig cane-holes; the constable, Joseph Brown, came to the hospital to see her, and said that she was not well enough, and so she remained in the hospital another week. I did not see any marks of flogging, but her shins were very bad with sores.

Encl. 15, in No. 50.

Enclosure 15, in No. 50.

Jane Carter's Case, of Alexandria.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

Taken in the Case of a woman named *Jane Carter*, late an Apprentice to *Alexandria Estate*, in the Parish of *Saint Ann*.

Jane Grove, an Apprentice and Doctor-woman on Alexandria Estate; sworn.

I REMEMBER when Jane Carter was sent to the workhouse; at the time she was sent she was a very lame woman, she had a small ulcer at the back of her leg, a little above the ankle; it was an old sore: she always had it. She was always off and on in the hospital with it; sometimes it would heal up and then break out again: she always wore a cloth round the sore, and the cloth was on it when she was brought before the magistrate; she always walked lame from some injury which she received in her hip from the time she was a child; her clothes would have prevented any one from seeing the cloth round her leg when she was tried. When she was brought before the special magistrate, she explained her case to him, but did not tell him that she had a sore. The sore was not bad then, it was quite small; she limped when she walked, from the defect in her hip. She was a young woman and had two children, they are both free, and are now under the care of an old woman on the property, who is a relation of the mother, as their father is dead. She was very bad when she came back from the workhouse. I believe she was nearly two weeks on the road coming home. When busha heard that she was on the road and could not move away from where she was sitting, he sent away two apprentices, named Mrs. Morris and Eliza Ewbanks, and told them to go and look for Jane Carter, and to take her to any property that was near, and beg the overseer or doctor-woman to mind her. Busha also said that when he sent for her, he would pay the person who took care of her. The two women went away that day in search of her, but could not find her. On Monday morning the overseer called her brother, John Grove, and told him to go in search of his sister; he was absent several days and returned without hearing any thing of her. The overseer sent him a second time, and told him he must look until he found her, but he returned again without success.

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Soon after that she came home herself in a very bad state ; the sore was very bad, the flesh was all rotten and black, and the sinews and the bone could be seen quite plain ; she was lame and very thin. I saw her come up into the yard, and she was ordered into the hospital. I am a doctor-woman on the property, and I attended her ; she remained in the hospital about three weeks and then died. She had no fever and no particular sickness, but the day before she died she complained to me that her stomach was hurting her ; I gave her a little bitters and she died the next morning ; her legs were quite clean then ; the doctor saw her every day, and while she was in the hospital she got plenty of eating and drinking as well as medicine. She did not get any bark or wine. Jane Carter was a great runaway. I cannot tell how long it was after she was discharged from the workhouse that she returned home ; our people work on the nine-hours' system, and get half Fridays ; they do not get herrings unless they work their own half Fridays.

There are separate rooms in the hospital for men and women. Jane Carter was a poor creature, but she was a trickified person ; I mean by that, that she was always rambling away from the property in her own time, instead of stopping to work her ground and attend to herself. She had the same opportunity of working her ground as the rest of the people, as there is plenty of fine provision-land on the property. She always turned out very late on Monday mornings, but was never away more than part of the Monday. The man she lived with, at the time of her death, belonged to Culloden, and I believe that she was accustomed to go to his house in her own time. Culloden is about the distance of five miles from Alexandria. Jane Carter was in the great gang ; I do not know any particular cause for her running away at the time that she was punished ; I never heard her tell the overseer that she could not do the work she was put to ; when she returned from the workhouse, I asked her how it was that she was so poorly, and she answered that it was the treadmill that did her so ; I have been always used to attend to sores, and from what I have heard of the treadmill, I think it very likely that it could only have been from the punishment which she received on the treadmill, that she could have got so bad in so short a time ; busha never looked at the sore. When Jane Carter came home, I said to her, " See what you have brought upon yourself, if you had not been a runaway, this would not have happened to you ; you have brought all upon yourself." She replied, " If it was not that times are not now as they used to be before, and if it had not been that people now pity one another, and that some good ones gave me a little food, and assisted me to wash my leg, I should have died on the road." I saw marks on both her legs, as if they had been flogged, and when I asked her, she said that they were the marks of the cat with which they had been lashed.

I know that a woman named Mary Paterson was sent twice to the treadmill ; the last time that she was sent she was pregnant ; she is not delivered yet ; she was sent since last Christmas, but I do not remember the exact time ; she was not very large, but it was to be seen from her shape that she was in the family-way. When she was sentenced, she cried very much, because she did not feel herself well enough to go ; she did not tell the magistrate, Capt. T. A. Dillon, that she was in the family-way. Mary Paterson would not stay to her work, but was often away for two or three weeks at a time, near Falmouth ; she was not sent to the treadmill either time that she was sent to the workhouse, but was ordered to be confined in the lock-up room. After her return there was not much the matter with her. She complained of her back, and after taking a dose of salts, she went to her work. She has complained much of her back since.

Charles Smith, a Head-constable on Alexandria ; sworn.

I knew Jane Carter ; she was sent to the workhouse some time ago ; she had a sore on the small of her leg, just a little above her ankle ; any one could see where the sore was ; it was tied with a piece of cloth just below her petticoat. I saw her in the hospital when she returned from the workhouse, and she looked very bad ; she had marks of flogging with the cat on the place where the sore was. When she left the workhouse she could not come home, and two of her friends went to look for her on a Sunday, and returned without being able to find her. The overseer also sent her brother, Alexander Grove, in search of her. A free woman, named Mrs. Simpson, on her way from St. Ann's Bay, saw her, and brought home word that she was on the road and unable to walk ; Mrs. Simpson went to the negro-houses and told some of her family ; she never went to the gang after she came home, nor left the hospital up to the day of her death. She was in the habit of running away, and had been away for a week at the time she was taken before the magistrate ; she was in the habit of turning out late on Mondays, and was very plaguingsome ; she spent all her own time off the property, and used to go, I believe, to her husband at Culloden ; she did not work any ground ; she was a lame girl, and was always troubled with lameness ; there was something the matter with her hip some time ; she could not stand up straight ; she did not show lameness so much when standing as in walking. In other respects she had not the appearance of a sickly woman. I never saw the real state of the sore on her leg, but I always saw that a cloth was bound round it. We work upon the nine-hours' system on Alexandria, and get the half Fridays. Herrings were given once by the overseer to all the people for nothing, but the custom is only to give to those who work at shell-blow, and on the half Fridays. I know a person named Mary Paterson ; she is a cousin of mine ; before she went to the workhouse last time, I heard the people say that she was pregnant, but I did not notice it myself. I did not observe her falling back in her row as a pregnant woman often does. She was sent to the workhouse by Capt. T. A. Dillon. I think it was before the Christmas she was sent ; she has not been to the workhouse since then. She is now very large ; she is a very trou-

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blesome girl, and once having obtained leave from Capt. Dillon to go to Falmouth, she never remembered to return till she was sent for. I do not know for what fault she was sent to the workhouse.

WEDNESDAY, 27 September 1837.

Mary Simpson, a Free Woman; sworn.

I remember seeing Jane Carter on her return from the workhouse; I saw her on the Wakefield-road; she was sitting down. I asked what was the matter with her. She said that she had come out of the workhouse; that they had sent her out of the workhouse because they did not wish her to die there. She said that she was very much. I told her, "If you can get up, you and I will walk together." She replied, that she was not able to do so. I then told her that when I went home I would call and send some of her family for her. I looked at her leg; it was very bad, and was swelled quite large. The shins were all cut up, and she told me that it was the treadmill that did her so. She took the bandage off and showed me her sore. I did not see any marks of flogging on it, nor did I see any maggots; she said she knew she could not live; that she was just going home to die. Both the fore and the back part of the foot were sore; the foot was very bad, and the sores were all fresh ones. She said that she had been sent out of the workhouse the day before I saw her. She was sent out on the Friday, and slept at the watchman's hut at Wakefield that night. It was on the Saturday that I met her; she had an old sore before she went to the workhouse, but it was quite well at the time she went in. I told her family about her when I went home, and on the Sunday they took some provisions and went for her, but they could not find her, and they returned home. Wakefield is about six miles from St. Ann's Bay. The sores on her leg were all on the middle part of the shins down to the ankle; all the calf was swelled up.

Hamilton Brown, an Apprentice to Culloden; sworn.

Jane Carter was my wife; she used to live with me. When she came home to Alexandria from the workhouse I did not go to see her. I never heard that she came home until after she was dead and buried. She used to come to Culloden on Saturday evenings, and went home to Alexandria on Sunday evenings at four o'clock. I never knew her to run away. She lived with me up to the time that she was sent to the workhouse. When she ran away she never came to me, nor did I carry her home. I had no time to go and see her when she was in the St. Ann's house of correction, as I am a mule-man on Culloden, and am constantly employed in carrying grass; we have at Culloden the whole of every other Friday, and when the overseer has fish he gives it to us.

THURSDAY, 28 September 1837.

Doctor Robb; sworn.

I remember Jane Carter; she had a sore on her leg before she went to the workhouse; the sore was well before she left the hospital. On her return from the workhouse the sore was again bad. She was in the habit of absconding from the hospital, and always returned with a bad sore. When she returned from the workhouse I saw her leg; the sore was very bad; I should say that it was a very foul ulcer. I cannot say that I saw any marks of flogging on the leg; I should think that the exercise of the treadmill, and the great distance of the journey to and from St. Ann's Bay, caused the breaking out again of the ulcer. The sore was on the inside of the leg, but I cannot say whether that part was touched by the treadmill. I did not consider, after first seeing her on her return from the workhouse, that her life was in danger, either from the effects of the sore or from her general appearance; the sore was healing before her death, and she had no fever. I understand that previously to her death she was seized with a pain in her stomach, and died before I saw her. While in the hospital she got every requisite attendance. I understood that she was two weeks reaching home from the workhouse, but I should not think that so much time would be necessary for her to walk home in consequence of her ulcerated leg. I cannot say how often I saw the leg from the time of her return from the workhouse to that of her death. Her general health, which was never good, did not appear to be giving way since her return from punishment. I remember Mary Patterson; I heard that she was pregnant the last time she was sent to the workhouse for punishment, but I knew nothing of it myself, as I never examined her.

Encl. 16, in No. 50.

Enclosure 16, in No. 50.

Thomas Henry's Case, of Southfield.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

Taken at *Brown's Town* and *St. Ann's Bay*, in the case of an Apprentice Labourer named *Thomas Henry*, belonging to Southfield Estate, in the parish of St. Ann.

WEDNESDAY, 27 September 1837.

Thomas Henry, Apprentice to Southfield; sworn.

I know Mary Jane Kidson, and remember when she was sent to the workhouse. She was ordered by the busha to be locked up; she had a young child with her. One night she

she came to me, and asked if she was ever saucy to me. I said, No; I was then a constable. She said that the book-keeper had told the busha that she was saucy to me. That same night the book-keeper, Mr. Powell, came, and told me that I must lock her up in the dungeon. I went in search of her, but she could not be found. The next morning she was found, and put in the dungeon, with her child, until Mr. Rawlinson came; he came the same day. She was taken before him, and complained against, for being saucy to Mr. Powell, the book-keeper. I was carried up at same time, with my hand tied, because I did not catch her the night before. I was carried from the dungeon, where I had been put in the morning, and was charged with not finding the girl; and Mr. Rawlinson sentenced me to be flogged. He rode away; and I was tied to a long ladder, and buckled round the small of my back with a strap. One of the book-keepers, now living at Lillyfield, whose name is Mr. John Hunt, first commenced to cat me, and afterwards Mr. Thomas Powell, the other book-keeper, who now lives as busha at Arbole, catted me; nobody else flogged me. They flogged me so bad that I must have died but for the Lord's mercy. Busha stood by laughing the whole time. After I was flogged, he allowed me to go to my own house, where I was laid up three months. The back was dreadfully cut up, and was dressed by my aunt. No doctor ever saw it, as I was not in the hospital. I was cut from the nape of my neck to the small of my back. I did not feel the flogging so much on my skin at the time as I did inwards. Every stroke appeared to cut me to the heart. I could scarce blow afterwards. It seemed to me as if my heart had swelled. I could not eat; I had a constant thirst upon me, and was always drinking water. When I recovered, I was sent to mind cattle, and sent to work in the first gang. On Thursday night we were kept working in the field until the stars came out, and covered the sky; this was about seven weeks after Christmas. I complained to Mr. Powell, and we were drawn off. The same night I went to Mr. Sowley, the special magistrate at Laughlands, about three miles from the property, and asked him if it was lawful to work us so late. He said he would be on the property next week, and settle it. The next morning, the book-keeper, Mr. Powell, who knew that I had gone to Laughlands, to Mr. Sowley, told the overseer that I had come home. The busha, Mr. Higginbottom, then sent to call me to the yard. He opened the store door, and gave James Bennett a new rope to tie me well. I was tied, as I thought, to be carried to Mr. Sowley; but when they told me that they were carrying me to Mr. Rawlinson, at Brown's Town, I said I would not go there, as I knew what they would do with me. Upon this, they opened the curing-house door, took out a piece of board about four feet long, and then James Bennett Ewan, James M'Clean Piper, and Hamilton Piper, with Mr. Powell, tied me upon a piece of board, to carry me upon the heads of two men to Brown's Town. Mr. Powell pressed on my stomach with his knee, while the apprentices tied me. At last, the busha's housekeeper, Mary Scarlett, told Mr. Higginbottom that it was a shame to tie a live man upon a piece of board to carry before a magistrate; that his character would be injured by it. The busha then released me. I then went to my work. The book-keeper, Mr. Powell, came to me, and said that he was sorry they had let me go. I said to him, "Why do you pick after me so, massa." He replied, "I will never stop until I get you punished again." I went again to Mr. Sowley; but as he did not give me any satisfaction, I went to Spanish Town, to see Lord Sligo, the Governor. I did not see him, as he was at Highgate, and I returned home. I went to my work, and paid up my time for the days I had lost. I had been a constable. The magistrate never took my constable's paper from me, but the overseer broke me himself.

THURSDAY, 28 September 1837.

Mr. John Hunt, Book-keeper on Southfield and Lillyfield; sworn.

At the time of the flogging of Thomas Henry, Mr. Higginbottom called me out. I was then sickly. He asked me if I could flog the man. I knew nothing of the trial or the sentence. On being asked the question, I said I did not know, as I was sickly. I cannot remember the number of lashes I gave, but I gave the number that I was ordered, and the other book-keeper, Mr. Powell, gave the rest. We flogged Thomas Henry with a cat. I think I must have given him about 15 lashes, but I cannot swear to the exact number. I was ordered to give him a certain number, and when I did so, I was drawn off. I did not count the lashes myself; a person who was by counted them. I did not count the number of lashes that Mr. Powell gave. I cannot say what particular time it was, but I think it must have been about September 1835. Thomas Henry was strapped to a ladder in the way he described. His back was cut, but not in a worse way than other people's backs were cut who used to be flogged. I do not know anything about his being tied down on the board. I was not there at the time. I have heard, in this parish, about book-keepers flogging people who were sentenced by the special magistrate, but I never saw it. I have heard that Mr. Powell has flogged other people. The special magistrate was on the property the same day of the trial, but went away before the flogging took place.

William Leach, a Constable and Mason on Southfield; sworn.

I was present when Thomas Henry was flogged. Busha sent him under my charge to be locked up; the next day he was flogged by order of the magistrate. I was not present when he was tried; he was tied to a ladder, strapped round the back, and flogged. Mr. Powell and Mr. Hunt flogged him. It was intended that both of them should flog him. Mr. Hunt flogged him first, but he was sick and could not flog as hard as Mr. Powell, who finished the flogging. Thomas Henry cried and bawled a great deal while they were

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flogging him; he complained that the strap round his back was too tight, and when he did so I went and loosed it four holes; his back was very badly cut up. Mr. Hunt flogged hard, so did Mr. Powell; Mr. Powell laid it on harder than Mr. Hunt, as he was not sickly. Thomas Henry was flogged as high as the shoulder; he was not so much cut up by Mr. Hunt's flogging as he was by that which he got from Mr. Powell, who was a strong young man, and appeared to hit as hard as his strength would allow him. The magistrate went away and did not witness the flogging. After he went away the police came; they were sent by him to lay the flogging on. Thomas Henry had received the punishment about 20 minutes before they came. It was Mr. Higginbottom who ordered me to bring Thomas Henry out, but I don't know who gave orders for the book-keepers to flog. I understood that they flogged him because the police did not come in time. The police did not see the flogging. I have seen the police flog people; one flogs first and the other flogs after; one gives one half and the other gives the balance. The police flogged as hard as the book-keepers, and they flogged with all their strength. After the flogging Thomas Henry went back to Southfield. I don't think that the flogging was so bad as to be likely to cause his death. The busha sat down at the porch while he was getting the punishment and counted the lashes, but I did not see him laugh. I don't think that Thomas Henry was laid up more than two weeks. During the flogging the blood streamed down his back. I remember when Thomas Henry went to Laughlands to see Mr. Sowley, the special magistrate. I was in the field with him that evening until the stars appeared. Henry said to Mr. Powell, "It is time to draw off the negroes," and Mr. Powell said "Yes." After the Negroes had drawn off, Thomas Henry told me that he was going to the special magistrate. I went to the busha to get orders, and he asked me for Thomas Henry. I told him where he had gone to. I received my orders and went away. The next morning Thomas Henry turned out to work at the same time as the other negroes. Mr. Powell was in the field and called the list. He asked Thomas Henry where a woman was yesterday evening named Charlotte Small. Henry replied, "There she is, she will answer for herself;" he did not say this in an insulting manner. Mr. Powell turned to me and said, "Do you hear what he says?" I replied "Yes," and repeated the words. Mr. Powell then left the field and went up to the overseer's house to breakfast. After breakfast busha sent to me to send Thomas Henry to the yard. I sent him, but what they did with him I cannot say. I was not present at anything they did.

Note.—On reference to the return of the special magistrate, it appeared that in his sentence in the case above alluded to Thomas Henry was ordered to receive 39 lashes.

Hamilton Piper, a Carpenter on Southfield; sworn.

I remember when Thomas Henry was flogged at Lillyfield; I was not there. I remember when he was ordered to go to Brown's Town to be tried before the special magistrate; he would not go. Busha then called myself and James McLean Piper and James Bennett Ewan, and desired us to take him to Brown's Town. Thomas Henry said that he would not go. Busha then told Mr. Powell to get a piece of board; a piece was brought out, and we were desired to lash Henry upon it. We lashed him because we thought we had a right to obey busha's orders. Thomas Henry struggled a great deal, and we could not manage him. Mr. Powell then clapped his knee on his breast to keep him down, while we tied him. He was not tied very well. Mr. Powell knelt on him with one knee on his breast; he knelt on him with all his might. Thomas Henry was laid flat on the board, and lashed from his shoulders to his feet; he was lashed round and round in the same manner as we lash hogs. When we lashed him, he called out and said he would walk. I went to busha and told him that Henry said he would walk if he would give him something to eat. Busha called out, "Go away, Sir, and carry him to Brown's Town." Busha then came out, and James Ewan and myself begged quite hard for him. We told him that it would look very shameful if he made us carry a live man lashed that way to Brown's Town. He said, "As you have begged so hard, if Mr. Powell will pardon him I have no objection." Mr. Powell said, "Yes," he would pardon him. He was then let off and sent to his work; had we not begged he would have been sent lashed on the board, if we had been able to manage him. Thomas Henry, when ordered to go to Brown's Town, said that he would willingly go to Mr. Sowley to be tried, but he did not want to be tried by Mr. Rawlinson. I can't tell whether Mary Scarlett begged for him or not. After Thomas Henry was let go he went to his work. He complained afterwards of a pain in his stomach, caused by the weight of Mr. Powell when he knelt upon him. I did not see Thomas Henry's back after his flogging at Lillyfield. I saw him about two weeks after; he looked sick enough, but I can't remember how long he was laid up. I know that Thomas Henry went to the governor, but I don't know whether he paid back any days.

Mr. Thomas Powell, formerly a Book-keeper on Southfield and Lillyfield, now Overseer on Arbole; sworn.

I remember one evening the people were kept in the field, but not until six o'clock. Thomas Henry made a great noise, and said he would go to Mr. Sowley. I mentioned this to Mr. Higginbottom the overseer, as I thought it my duty to do so. On the next morning I went to the field and asked Thomas Henry why Charlotte Small Davis had been absent the evening before; I asked where she was; he gave me a very impertinent answer, saying "You know very well where she was, don't come and trouble me;" or words to that effect.

I mentioned

I mentioned this to Mr. Higginbottom at breakfast time, and he sent for him. Mr. Sowley happened to be very sick at the time, and Mr. Higginbottom said "Carry him to Mr. Rawlinson." He would not go, and when we found that, Mr. Higginbottom, of course, said that he should go. A piece of board was brought out, but he was not tied, he was merely laid on it, and had the rope on one foot. James Bennett Ewan, Hamilton Piper, and James McLean Piper were all there; the board was brought out for the purpose of laying him on it; he refused to go and struggled very violently, and in the act of falling, he collared me and carried me down with him; I put my knee on his breast to extricate myself from him, as he struggled very violently; ropes were got out to tie him, and I was about tying him while the apprentices held him; but he begged very hard, the apprentices begged for him, and Miss Scarlett, I believe, begged for him. The overseer said that if I was satisfied, he would let him off. I won't be certain whether Leach was in the field when Thomas Henry complained of being worked too late in the evening; it was in the commencement of the short days, and the evening star was out, but no other. It was never suggested that the police should be sent for when he resisted going to Brown's Town. I remember the punishment received by Thomas Henry; I don't remember the offence for which he was brought up, but I know that Mary Jane Kidson and himself are among the worst people on the property. I often complained of them to the overseer, and was present when they were tried. I can't remember whether I was called upon to give evidence; I was always called up to give evidence on cases brought before the magistrate, but I don't remember being called upon in this case. I have catted several people; I have catted about three persons by order of Dr. Thompson, the late special magistrate; he was in the house when I catted them. I think that Thomas Henry was the last I catted. I don't know that the constables were ever ordered to flog people, and refused; they used to flog the people, but in such a way that they did not care about the punishment; when they flogged, it could not be called punishment. I do not remember any other case than that of Thomas Henry's where two book-keepers were employed in catting one man. I know that I counted the lashes, but I don't remember how many I gave. I am certain that Thomas Henry did not get more lashes than were ordered; but I don't know whether the doctor-man saw him after the flogging. I repeat that I don't know any other instance of two young men being employed in flogging one man; I do not know why such were the orders on the present occasion. It was the overseer, and not the magistrate, who ordered Mr. Hunt and myself to flog Thomas Henry. I am not positive, but I don't think that he was laid up more than two weeks after the catting. Mr. Rawlinson said that the police were to flog Thomas Henry; they came about a half hour after the flogging; the flogging took place at two o'clock, and was before dinner. The overseer said, by not seeing the police come early, that it was his opinion they were not at Knapdale, and that sooner than keep the people locked up, the book-keepers should go on with the flogging. Dr. Thompson was the only special magistrate who directed such a proceeding as that of making book-keepers flog the apprentices; I never knew the book-keepers to cat apprentices on any other property. I never saw the police cat any body on Southfield or Lillyfield. Mr. Higginbottom is no advocate for catting if he can possibly avoid it. I do not know whether Ann McClay was pregnant when she was sent to the workhouse; indeed I knew but little of the Lillyfield people at that time. I never saw any allowance made for pickaninny mothers who were picking pimento; they can very well pick pimento and suckle their children. The task-work is about a half barrel each of pimento per day. There was always an allowance made to the Southfield people when they were cleaning pastures at Lillyfield, particularly on Mondays, as they had to walk from one property to the other; when this was the case they remained at Lillyfield until the week's work was finished. After the time when the attempt was made to tie Thomas Henry, he ran away, and gave himself up some time afterwards; he paid back his days; he was suspected of being of great injury to the property during his absence. It was reported by William James, the head cattle-man, that Thomas Henry drove the cattle out of the pens into the fields of young cane-plants, which were totally destroyed; these two fields consisted of 17 acres.

The Court.—Mr. Powell, you are a young man and an overseer, but we must suggest to you that if you had refused to obey Mr. Higginbottom's orders to flog Thomas Henry it would have been creditable to you, and you would perhaps have got on better for it; you should not have made a common executioner of yourself.

Mr. Powell—I do not regret what I did; I am not glad of it, but I am not sorry about it. By pleasing Mr. Higginbottom I am now an overseer through his interest. The man was insolent to me, and did everything to induce me to strike him, by which means I might have been subject to a penalty of five pounds; I was therefore not sorry to inflict the punishment, although I did not do so from any ill will; I only obeyed my overseer's orders.

FRIDAY, 29 September 1837.

William James, Cattleman and Apprentice to Southfield and Lillyfield; sworn.

I do not know anything about the cattle breaking out of one of the pens, and eating down canes about two years ago. The first person I heard it from was the busha, who said to me, "William James, some good friend has let the cattle out of the pen, and they have eat down the young canes at the Cashaw-tree cane-piece." I replied, "I don't think it;" I said, "I don't think anybody could have done so." Nothing else passed between us. Thomas Henry, the constable, had run away that time. Busha might have it to say that it was him who let the cattle out; but I could not believe it. I know nothing of it.

JAMAICA.

John Higginbottom, Esq. of Chesterfield, in St. Ann's; sworn.

I cannot exactly state the time, but shortly after Thomas Henry was punished, he came to me, requesting me to intercede with overseer for him; he said that he had been severely punished, and broken as a constable, and that if I would beg for him and get him reinstated his overseer should have no cause to complain; he said, he knew that he had done wrong, and was sorry for it. I examined his back, and did not at that time consider from the mark which appeared that he had received a severe flogging.

In reply to a question from the Court, Mr. Higginbottom said, "It has never come within my knowledge that book-keepers have been employed to carry into effect the sentence of the special magistrate, and I should consider it highly improper to employ the accuser to flog a delinquent."

Note.—Previously to the reception of Mr. Higginbottom's evidence, the whole of Thomas Henry's case, as taken at Brown's Town, was read, and Mr. George Higginbottom, the overseer at Southfield at the time of the occurrence, having been present, was asked whether he was desirous of offering any evidence in rebutter. He informed the Court, through John Higginbottom, Esq., his brother, that he declined doing so.

Encl. 17, in No. 50.

Enclosure 17, in No. 50.

SUNDRY COMPLAINTS on Dunbarton Estate, St. Ann.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

Taken at *Brown's Town*, in the Parish of *St. Ann*, respecting the Complaint of sundry Apprentices on Dunbarton Estate.

SATURDAY, 30 September 1837.

Adolphus Redwar, Constable on Dunbarton; sworn.

I KNOW a boy belonging to Dunbarton, named George Lewis; he was once caught stealing corn; he was taken before the magistrate when he came to the estate, who sentenced him to receive 20 lashes. Alexander Lynch, his father, was ordered to flog him; I remember his being flogged by old Alexander Lynch, his father, by order of the busha; he was flogged twice; one time he was held out to be flogged; the next time he was tied to a cart-wheel. He was caught by busha the second time with a load of canes which he had stolen; the first time he was sent by busha to his father to have him corrected; the second time he received a regular flogging: he was flogged close to the boiling-house, tied to a cart-wheel.

George Lewis, an apprentice to Dunbarton Estate, apparently about 18 years old; sworn.

I was flogged twice by my father, with the cat; once he laid me down, and the next time I was tied to a cart-wheel. Busha sent up to the house for the cat; it was not knotted; but directly as it was brought down busha knotted it himself, and gave it to my father to flog me.

Old Alexander Lynch, an Apprentice to Dunbarton; sworn.

George Lewis is my son; he pulled cocoa-nuts out of busha's own settlement, and busha asked me what I was going to do with him; I told him, that whenever he committed a fault, I always corrected him myself, but that I was tired of doing so; I said, that busha must let him pay back a Saturday for the cocoa-nuts; he said, that he did not want that, I must correct him myself. One day I was working at the Lime Wall; busha asked me, if I had corrected that boy yet; I said, no, I was waiting to see if he would commit another fault. I was one day in the boiling-house, potting sugar; George Lewis was sent to cut bread-nuts, but went and cut canes in the cane-piece, as I was told; busha and him came along to the boiling-house; busha called me to him, and said, "I told you to correct this fellow; have you done it?" I said, I was waiting for him to commit a new fault; busha sent to the great house for the cat, and it was brought; he put it on the barrel; when I asked the book-keeper and constable who was to correct the boy, they said, "It is you." I took the cat, and told one of the boys to bring me a piece of rope to tie him, as I could not flog him without tying; the rope came, and I was going to tie him where we load sugar, when busha said, "Not there, carry him to the cart." I carried him, and tied him to the wheel, with the assistance of the driver, as I did not know how to tie him good; I then began to flog him; busha was close by; I did not count the lashes, but after I gave him a good many, busha said, "That is plenty, but you have not cut him;" I replied, "I have not got a knife to cut him." I then threw down the whip, and would not remain until he was loosed, as I could not bear it; I never catted him before, but switched him for stealing canes. The reason I catted him was, because busha would have been vexed with me if I had not done it; I felt very sorry after doing it; I flogged him because I told busha I would correct him if he committed another fault; he did so two or three times, and I did not flog him, and busha told me, if I did not do it he would know what to do with him; so I was obliged to flog him; busha knotted the cat when I was going to flog him; as busha stood by when I was flogging him, I thought that he was taking everything to himself; had he sent the boy to me, in my own yard, I would have corrected him myself, and then

then it would have been my doing. Busha always gives me a little feeding when I go and ask for it; he is cruel sometimes, when he can't get his work done; but when he gets over his passion he is kind; the boy is a very lazy boy.

Humphrey Newell, an Apprentice to Dunbarton; sworn.

I saw the punishment of George Lewis; it was given with a cat. The back was wealed, but the skin was not broken. He got 40 lashes; he was flogged for stealing canes; he stole as much as he could eat through the day. I have been flogged myself by Mr. Mallett; he sent me to his property to repair a butt. The mill was about at Dunbarton in the meantime; and when I went home, it was about two days, and there was no hogsheads to pot sugar. One cooper was left at Dunbarton, and another and myself were at Mr. Mallett's own place. When I returned to Dunbarton, busha quarrelled with me for the want of casks, and I asked how I could be accountable for work done at Dunbarton, when I was at his place at work; that I called that imposing upon me. He then came and flogged me on my bare back with a supple-jack, and I felt very sick the next day; this was before last Christmas. I did not go to the special magistrate, but I told Mr. Hamilton Brown, the attorney, and he gave me neither advice nor satisfaction. When I saw the magistrate, I merely told him that I had quarrelled with the busha. I did not take him to the magistrate, because I knew that he was in a passion; he did not make any apology for what he did, but I thought he would have made some little present to me; he has been in a passion with me since then, and has treated me much worse, but I have never been put since to work in the field.

The Court.—The reason why your overseer treated you worse was because he had done you an injustice, and had not made you any amends. Had he made you amends, perhaps he would have treated you better; but it is quite in human nature to do a man wrong, and hate him afterwards.

Henry Lynch, Head-mason on Dunbarton Estate; sworn.

On Monday morning I saw the mother of Francis Bell; I asked the old woman what blood was that she had on her Osnaburg frock; she said that busha had been beating Francis with a supple-jack, and that she had gone to Mr. Rawlinson, but he was not at home. I asked the boy how many licks he had received, and he told me that busha first struck him with his fist about his neck, and then took a supple-jack, which was split at the end, and bound round with a wire, and beat him over his head with it, when the blood came through his nose. I saw the flogging of George Lewis, but I was not near; I am told that he got 40 lashes; the back was not much cut, but it was wealed. The busha is very kind to the free children, and never takes any days from their mothers for the time they lose in attending them when sick. I never heard that busha ever tried to frighten any person, so as to prevent them from coming here to complain; I don't think that he would do such a thing. My wife is a free woman, and allowed to live on the property; Mr. Mallett often gives her sugar, and is very kind to my child, and all the children. Besides the customary allowances on the estate, I often get rum, sugar, and many other things, particularly when I hang the coppers; he is very liberal to me then, because he considers my doing so a saving to the estate, as it prevents him from hiring a white person to do it.

The Court.—We feel particularly pleased, Mr. Mallett, at the admission we have heard of your kind treatment to the children, and we cannot do otherwise than acknowledge that your conduct in this respect, as well as your conduct and candour in court during the whole of this investigation, are extremely satisfactory to us and creditable to yourself.

Mr. Mallett said that he did not count the number of lashes that George Lewis received; but thinks that he told the father when to leave off. "I remember," said Mr. Mallett, "having struck the boy Francis on one occasion when he was exceedingly insolent; I struck him over the head with a supple-jack which was split at the end; and in doing so he received a cut over the brow; but I deny that blood came through his nose, or that the supple-jack was bound with wire. Blood came from the place over the brow which received the cut, and I must confess that I was much alarmed at it. I expressed my sorrow at the time, and I do so now; I was overcome by my temper. I have not struck any person with a supple-jack since, and I hope that I shall never do so again."

MONDAY, 2 October 1837.

Mr. John Mallett, Overseer on Dunbarton Estate; sworn.

There was a disappointment arose in getting hogshead staves at the commencement of the last crop, and for one or two days the cooper was idle, when I told Humphrey Newell, as he had refused my hire in his own time, and was now idle, to go to my own place and repair my water butt, as the Dunbarton Negroes had water from it when working on that side of the estate which is near to it; he went, and instead of stopping the leaks, he took the butt to pieces, cut the bottom, and could not or would not put it together; so the butt was spoiled; he was very insolent, and was so, as I suppose, to provoke me to lift my hand, that he might have something against me, as I had been obliged to break him as head cooper, for his bad conduct and drunkenness, arising from my indulgences towards him. When I took George Lewis to his father, and told him that I had caught him stealing again, that he had not noticed any of my former complaints, and that if he did not correct him now, I

would

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would take him to the special magistrate; he said, unhesitatingly, "Busha, leave him to me, and I will punish him." The cat he was punished with had never before been knotted at the ends, which were not whiplash but very soft stuff; Alic. Lynch was perfectly satisfied at the time, and would never have complained now, had he not been urged on by others to do so. The cat, I believe, was never used before, although upwards of two years on the property, nor were there but two people catted on the estate, and but on two occasions, some of them at Brown's Town, since the 1st August 1834. Independent of my own wishes, I was desired by my employers never to take the people before a magistrate, unless it could not be avoided; from their extreme indolence I might have had grounds for weekly complaints; sometimes six months have elapsed at a time without my making a complaint; I have given the people this year 15 barrels of herrings, a puncheon each of oatmeal and rice; and I lately got, at my solicitation to Mr. Hamilton Brown, four barrels of flour and 26 bags of rice, a part of which has been already given to them; I have distributed in cash since the 1st August 1834, 278*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.* to the people for hire in their own time. I give to children and their mothers about a hogshhead of sugar annually, with liberal allowances to the head people of salt-fish, &c. &c. at Christmas. I have recommended education to the young, at the request of the proprietors; the children were formerly taught to repeat the Church Catechism, and latterly they have had an opportunity of learning to read gratuitously at a school on one of my own properties, kept by the Rev. Mr. Alloway, of the London Missionary Society, and, as far as example goes, they may see me there at Divine service every Sabbath. Still they are not a truth-telling people; as, for instance, the falsehoods in the evidence shows, as well as the exaggerations made and the truths kept back by Henry Lynch. I have erected several new houses and repaired others for the people, in doing which the tradesmen are at present employed. I was not aware of the charges of ill using the boy Francis, or I could have all, except what I candidly admitted; that affair occurred more than two years ago, and was settled at the time by Mr. Turner. The dungeon on Dunbarton is dry, clean, and comfortable, and I do not think that there is a better anywhere; it is built on the Government plan.

Mr. John M'Dermott, Overseer at present on Hopewell Pen, and formerly a Book-keeper for three or four years under Mr. Mallett.

I was head-booker on Dunbarton for some years before and since the abolition of slavery. I always considered Mr. Mallett a humane man; when I heard of the charges brought by the Dunbarton negroes against the overseer, Mr. Mallett, I remarked that I considered it of little matter, as they had acted in that way to him in consequence of the very humane manner in which they had been treated. I have no hesitation in saying, on my oath, that I would not believe the oath of any negro on Dunbarton estate.

Note.—The annexed affidavit was forwarded to the Commissioners by Mr. Mallett during their stay at Falmouth.

Jamaica, ss. I, John Moore, book-keeper on Dunbarton estate, in the parish and island St. Ann. I aforesaid, do swear, that about the beginning of June last, one morning before breakfast, the overseer, Mr. Mallett, brought a boy named George Lewis, to his father, Alexander Lynch, then at work in the boiling-house, and stated, in my presence, that he had caught him stealing again, and the last time he complained to his father no notice was taken of it; that if his father did not correct the boy then, he would have him taken before a special magistrate, whereupon the father unhesitatingly said, "Busha, leave him to me, and I will punish him;" the punishment took place by the father's own hands; Mr. Mallett scarcely ever interfered or even spoke, that I heard; but the opinion I had at the time was, that he had better not have been present, and I am pretty sure had he gone away after the father spoke as above, no blame would ever have attached to him, for the father at the time never said the punishment was wrong. I was not questioned respecting the foregoing when before the late Court of Inquiry at Brown's Town, or would have given similar testimony as this, and which is the same as that already given on oath in July, for the satisfaction of his Excellency the Governor.

So help me God.

(signed) John Moore.

Sworn to before me this 14th day of October 1837.

(signed) Edward Tucker.

Encl. 18, in No. 50.

Enclosure 18, in No. 50.

CASES of Old George, of Southampton, and Robert Ferguson.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

Taken at Brown's Town respecting the death of an old Watchman belonging to Southampton Pen, in the Parish of St. Ann.

THURSDAY, 21 September 1837.

Mr. Charles Strachan, proprietor of Southampton; sworn.

I KNEW old George, the watchman; I don't think that I have seen him a half dozen times I purchased Southampton, but only went to live there in April last; I purchased it in November and

and visited it occasionally; it was only in April that I took up my residence there. Old George was quite aged and weak; he was a watchman to the property, and must have been between 70 and 80 years of age; he lived in his hut not far from the house, near the gate. I do not know by what means he was supported; I don't know whether he had any children on the property; I made no memorandum of his death; I can't remember what time it was; I never heard that he was ill till I was informed of his death; I then gave some clothes to bury him in; I don't know whether any medical gentleman saw him; no inquest was held on the body; on one occasion he came to the house, and I gave him some rum; but I was not in the habit of feeding him.

Robert Grant, an Apprentice on Southampton; sworn.

I remember when old George died at Southampton; he died about two months ago in the 'prentice yard; he lived in a hut by the road side, near the gate, about a quarter of a mile from the 'prentice yard; he was moved to the yard before the breath was out of his body; he was dying when he was carried up; he died about a half an hour after his removal; he was not a sickly man, but he was very old; up to the last he was able to feed himself from his provision ground; but for the two months before his death he was not able to go there from weakness, nor was he able to do anything for himself; he was not assisted at all by the people from the house, but when the apprentices saw him getting so weak, some would carry him a cocoa and plantain, or anything to help him out; although so weak, I don't think he would have died so soon if he had been better fed and cared for; he was never in the hospital; I don't know whether the doctor ever saw him; he lived in a very bad hut; the rain could come in both from the top and sides; sometimes the old man would be perhaps two days without receiving anything to eat; the apprentices did not visit him regularly. One day a man by the name of Johnson was passing by and saw the old man laying about quite sick, and not able to move; he told us, and I then called a few people, and went down and removed him to the 'prentice yard; he died about a half hour after he was taken up; at the time of his death his feet were quite sore from chegoes, and from being burnt by being too near the fire; no inquest was held on the body, nor did any doctor see it; I told master of the old man's death, but he did not see him.

Francis Johnson, a free man, formerly an Apprentice of Southampton; sworn.

I saw old George about the 5th May; I saw him on the evening of his death; he was laying down with his feet in the ashes, where he used to make his fire; the ashes were cold; he was scarcely covered, having on nothing but a few pieces of pennistones round his waist; his feet were filled with maggots; I told Robert Grant the state he was in, and he went with some men and removed him to the 'prentice yard, where he died about a half hour afterwards. Mr. Strachan told me to make a coffin, and said that he would have given him some clothes had he lived, "but that he must now get some when he gets over the river Jordan." No doctor, to my knowledge, ever visited him, nor do I know whether my master gave him any feeding. The hut he lived in was in a very bad state indeed; I can't say anything as to the feeding he got; the hut he lived in was not in a state to keep out the water when it rained; the thatch was all broken; there was only one apartment in it.

William Newby, a Watchman to Alexandria Estate, not sworn, as he did not appear to have any knowledge of Christianity: he said that he had been christened by the Rev. Mr. Lipscombe, who, however, did not give him any instruction, in consequence of his being a Guinea Negro.

I knew old George, and I used to carry wood and water for him. When he was getting very low I told Massa Strachan and his lady about it, and said to them that they must give him some physic; I did not see Mr. Strachan send him either any victuals or physic. The next time, saw the old man getting quite low; he could not raise himself; and I went again to the house, and told them how bad he was, and I told the people at the Negro houses; before I came back again from the house he was dead. If even he had anything to eat, unless he got somebody to cook it for him, it was of no use, as he could not cook it himself; I used to go to the Negro houses and get something for him, and cook it myself, and then he used to eat it well. Hungry belly for one helped to kill him, as he could not get anything to eat up to the last, and could not help himself; I never saw any doctor call to see him; his hut was bad; one side was good, and one side was bad, and when the rain came it used to catch him. All his feet were burnt up with the fire; they were all blistered up; I did not see any chegoes or maggots in the foot; he had scarcely any clothes on; he had only one broken frock on.

TUESDAY, 26 September 1837.

Mr. John Cover, a Master Carpenter; sworn.

I knew old George upwards of 16 years; I should think that he was from 85 to 90 years of age at the time of his death; he was in a bad state for the last 15 months; I saw him about a half hour before his death; he was in a very miserable situation; I had seen him about two or three days before that; he was completely deaf, and could not see at any distance; I asked him how he was; he replied, that he was quite bad. As I saw nothing in the hut for him to eat, I went home and returned with a few cocoas, herrings, and a little sugar and water. A boy from the farm was passing, and I got him to peel the cocoas and boil them for the old man. At the time of my return I found that somebody had been with him during my absence, and had left the cocoas for him; but he was so enfeebled that he

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could not have dressed them himself; he was in the same state for a week previously. I went to Brown's Town, and returned again in the evening; he was sleeping; he had some of the food by him, which he had left. When I was returning from Brown's Town I asked the watchman at Alexandria how he was; he replied, "He is quite low, massa." He then went to the hut with me, held my horse and Mr. Burford's, who was with me, and I went into the hut to see him; he was laying on his back, with his legs contracted, and appeared very low; I spoke to him, but he did not seem to hear me; I went out, and told the watchman that he had better go and tell Mr. Strachan, or somebody on the property, the state the old man was in; I then went home, and the next morning I heard of his death; I did not observe any maggots about his legs; when I saw him it was about sun-down, and I did not look particularly at them. About 15 months ago he received a chop on his hand from a person at Southampton, as I have heard; and information was given to me by my own watchman of the state he was in. Mrs. Cover and myself went to see him, and, on our return home, Mrs. Cover boiled a poultice for him, which was sent by one of our servants, and we sent him something to eat for eight or nine days; at all events, until he was out of danger. He was in a dreadful condition, and I consider that he has been falling off ever since. Before he received that wound he used to work his ground, but he has not been able to do so since. The hut he lived in has been a very good one; I have not examined it so particularly as to be able to say whether the rain could get in or not. I should think that I must have observed it had his legs and feet been burnt by the fire; I understand that he has had osnaburgh this year, but that it was not made up. After his death a boy came to me and stated, that no assistance could be procured; and Mrs. Cover made a shroud and cap, and sent them for him. Previously to his receiving the cut on his hand he was a very healthy man for his age. He could not have been in want of food for a week previously to his death. Knowing his habits, I think that he would have preferred remaining in his hut than going to the hospital. Had he belonged to me, although I do not consider that any attention could have kept him alive much longer, I should have taken him to my house, and had proper attention paid to him; and, in fact, I would have done so at the time he was so bad had Mr. Strachan, his master, not been at Southampton himself. The servant who dressed his arm is named Lucinda, and she stated to me that, on dressing it, she found maggots inside; she dressed the arm after he had received the wound some days; it had not been dressed before then. The watchman at Alexandria was very attentive to the old man.

The Court.—Mr. Cover, we cannot allow this opportunity to escape without assuring you how pleased we are with your conduct towards the unfortunate old man, about whom you have just given your evidence. Your kind attention and humanity entitle you to the respect of every man of feeling.

Miss Ann Dodd, an inmate of Southampton House; sworn.

I knew old George; I had been at Trelawny, and did not see him for a week before his death; when I returned home the doctor-woman came up to me on the Tuesday morning before his death, which happened on Friday, and said that Old George was quite sick; I replied, "I hope you have not allowed him to want for water;" I then gave her a pint each of corn-flour, sugar, and rum to take to him; I told her that as Mr. Strachan was sick at Beverly, she must take all the care she could of the old man. On Wednesday the doctor-woman returned, and said she had taken care of him, and that he wanted some soup; I gave her some meat to assist with some cocoas which Mrs. Cover had sent, and, after boiling the soup, the doctor-woman carried it. Mr. Strachan came home about ten o'clock, and I told him what I had done; he replied, "That is right; it is what I always tell you to do to any poor thing." On Friday morning a man by the name of Gallimore came to say that George was very poorly; Mr. Strachan asked if he had any family on the property; the man said "Yes." Mr. Strachan then said, "You had better get them to go and take him to their house." He went away, and came back in the evening, telling Mr. Strachan that none of the people would take the man up to their house; I then told him to go to the head constable, and desire him to get the people to do so. On Saturday morning Gallimore brought news of the man's death; Mr. Strachan gave a suit of clothes and a bottle of rum to assist in burying him; Mr. Strachan stops seldom at Southampton, but goes to Kinloss, and comes home every two weeks. In his absence the old man used to come and see me at the house, and I always gave him plenty to eat; when he was going away I would call the cook, and give him a few herrings, a little rum, and a little sugar. One day the watchman at Alexandria came and said that Mr. Strachan was passing by, and the old man begged him for something salt, and that Mr. Strachan said I must send something for him; I gave him a pint each of rum, sugar and corn-flour, and a half dozen of herrings; I afterwards sent him some herrings, a pint of corn-flour, and a pint of sugar, by a little boy, whose name I don't know. The cook can tell that all these were sent some time before old George got sick; I went one evening myself to see him about a month before his death; he was then very lively; I gave him a fivepenny, and, on my return home, sent some rum and water for him; the doctor-woman was with him four days before his death; I ordered her to stop in the hut with him, but she went backwards and forwards.

Mr. Strachan here mentioned that he heard yesterday, from Mr. Cover, that some one had mentioned to him that the people at Southampton would not have anything to do with old George, because he would not join the Baptists. This gentleman then made an allusion to improper advice being given to the apprentices by the ministers of the Baptist church.

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The Court.—Mr. Strachan, as you have made an allusion to a very respectable religious body, we think it our duty to assure you, that if you consult your own interests, you will encourage your people to attend all places where they can receive religious instruction; we would advise you to get rid of your improper prejudices and learn to think charitably of all persons.

Miss Mary Strachan; sworn.

The first week we came from Trelawny papa went on the next Saturday to Beverly. On that same day the Beverly people came and told me that he was very sick; during the first week I was at Southampton I was a stranger and did not know any of the people; the old man came up to the house; a house servant told me to give him something, as he belonged to my father. Whenever papa was at home and the old man came up to the house he always got something. The morning that I speak of, when I saw him at the house, I gave him a pint of flour, a couple of herrings, and a drink; the next day I went to Beverly.

Jane Elizabeth Gilchrist, an Apprentice to Southampton; sworn.

All I know of old George is, that I was passing by the yard and heard him talking to master, who did not understand him. I told master that he was begging for a little salt, and master gave him six herrings, and nothing else. I can't say what time this was before his death. I was at Southampton when he died. Two men brought news that he was dying; but I was not in the house to hear what orders were given, nor do I know who carried the old man from the hut. I was at the house one day with Miss Strachan. George came up, and she asked what he wanted. I told her that he belonged to master, who generally gave him something. I saw a little girl carry some rum and water to him, but I can't tell if anything else was given to him. I am one of the Southampton people, and did not come from Trelawny. Some of the children of old George's shipmates are on the property, and I believe that they used to assist him by giving him something to eat. I am a follower of the Baptist church, and never heard that old George was neglected by the people because he was not a Baptist. I am sure that they would not neglect him on that account; for we are not taught at our places of worship they neglect people because they are not Baptists.

In reply to a question from Mr. Strachan, Jane Gilchrist said, I saw Miss Mary open the store-door the day that old George came up; but as I remained in the house, I can't say whether she gave him anything; I did not see it.

Diana Taylor, an Apprentice to Southampton; sworn.

I knew old George, and I have seen him come into the yard sometimes before he got sick; and on two occasions mistress gave him some herrings and corn-meal. She gave him corn-meal and herrings the first time, and herrings only the second time. When he was quite sick he sent up to the yard, and I saw mistress give some sugar and corn-meal for him. I can't tell whether she sent any meat; she sent some rum. I don't know who it was that removed him from the hut. I had a conversation once with the Alexandria watchman, and I said to him, "Old man, as I saw you go up to missis, what did she give you for old George?" He said, "I bought some flour from her, and I begged her for a little rum for him, which she gave me." He said he paid her a fivepenny for the flour, and the rum he got was about a pint, which he carried down.

Eleanor Angwin, a very old woman, an Apprentice on Southampton; sworn.

I knew old George, and saw him when he was getting quite low. My owner sent me to him. I saw him two or three times, and carried water and a little nourishment for him. He did not stop a week before he died. The nourishment I carried was soup; when I carried it he drank it. I also carried some corn-meal for him. After drinking the soup, he said, "Tell mistress I thank her; if it had not been for this I should have died." One of his feet had sores; he told me that fire had burnt it. He also said that if mistress did not send anything, he was sure to get it from Mr. Cover. The hut he lived in was dry, and he laid on a mat. He had on an old frock. The people on the property did not have any spite against him. When they were at home he used to come to the Negro houses and beg a little something; and they never allowed him to go away without giving, if it was ever so little.

WEDNESDAY, 27 September 1837.

The Rev. John Hunby, Wesleyan Minister; sworn.

I passed by on the 29th of April, and I saw the old man named George about a fortnight before his death; he was in a state of complete nakedness, and was worn down to a skeleton. He was lying on the ground, and was unable to raise his head, which was resting upon a stone. I asked him what he had to live upon, and how he was supported? He told me that when able to work he had gone up to the houses, and the mistress had given him a little water; he did not mention having received anything else. He informed me that the people going by would sometimes give him something; but that lately, in consequence of the scarcity of provisions, he had not received anything. I observed a calabash, with a little sugar in it, by his side. As I saw a young man coming by who belonged to the property, I requested him to speak to the master about him. I gave a tenpenny for his immediate relief, and left. He was lying outside of the hut when I saw him, and

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appeared to be upwards of 70 years of age. His feet appeared in a very bad state, but I cannot say whether there were any sores. The hut did not appear to me to be very much dilapidated.

THURSDAY, 28 September 1837.

Dr. Wilson; sworn.

I am practising for Southampton. I have seen an old man, who was living near the gate. I don't know his name, nor do I recollect the last time I saw him. He has often asked me for a fivepenny, but never applied for medical assistance. I observed that he was an old man, and incapable of doing any work. I never examined his legs. I generally pass, once a week, through Southampton-gate, near the hut where the old man lived. On some properties the rooms are divided in the hospital; I should say in the greater number. On some estates one room is used in common for men and women. On other properties, again, the sick people are allowed to go to their own houses. I most willingly attend, in every respect, to the free children who are brought to me. I never attend expresses from the overseer for the free children; and I have never been prevented receiving from the property as much medicine as has been required for the uses of such children; even wine has been granted for them. This attention is evinced indiscriminately; but notwithstanding my readiness to act thus, in some places the mothers will not bring them to me until the last moment, by which course of conduct a great many deaths occur among the children. In some cases the overseer expects a return of labour from the mothers who are favoured as I have described; but I do not receive any pecuniary compensation whatever for my services, nor does the property. The births are more numerous now than they used to be before the apprenticeship, and the mortality less among the adults. I think, however, that fewer children are reared now, in proportion to the number born, than under the old system.

I never saw but one person who had returned after being sent to the treadmill; she appeared in perfect health, but went to the hospital for rest, I believe. She asked for physic. She never complained of her shin being cut. I never saw the treadmill at work at St. Ann's Bay.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

Taken at *Brown's Town*, in the Parish of *St. Ann*, in the case of a blind man, named *Robert Ferguson*, an Apprentice to Mr. Charles Strachan, of Southampton.

THURSDAY, 21 September 1837.

Mr. Charles Strachan, Proprietor of Southampton; sworn.

I have a blind man on Southampton, named Robert Ferguson; he is apparently blind, but he walks about considerable distances from home without any guide. A few days ago he came up to the house after I had broken in corn, and I gave him some. He has a ground, but I don't know whether he is able to cultivate it; his strength is sufficient, but I do not know whether he can see well enough to work it. I have 45 people on the property, but I never inquire about their grounds. I have often met Robert Ferguson walking about the pastures very cleanly dressed. I don't recollect that he ever made any application to me for support. I understand that he went, some time ago, to complain to the Governor, but I do not know what he complained about. The special magistrate of the district, Captain T. A. Dillon, never spoke to me about him. There is a very good hospital at Southampton, but it has only one room in it; men and women are put in together, and it is sometimes locked up during the day, but not often. I was thinking of dividing the place by putting a partition up.

The Court.—We recommend you to do so immediately, for it is our opinion that the indiscriminate mixing of the sexes is extremely improper. The female apprentices are now aware of that decency of conduct which they ought to preserve in their characters as wives.

SATURDAY, 22 September 1837.

Robert Ferguson, apparently about 40 years of age; a blind man, and an Apprentice on Southampton; sworn.

I have been blind more than 12 years; my late master, Mr. Angwin, used sometimes to give me food, and gave me my mother to take care of me; Mr. Strachan never gives me a bit of anything except six canes last Friday. Mr. Parry bought Southampton since the apprenticeship, and he took away my mother, and gave me nothing to eat. Mr. Strachan has had Southampton about 10 months; I have often asked him for food both at breakfast and dinner time, but he always tells me that he has nothing to give; I sit by the road side, and when any of my Christian family give me anything I stop there, but when they don't I go elsewhere; in fact, gentlemen, I am a beggar. When this new Governor came round some time ago to review the St. Ann's militia, he stopped at Greenwich Park, and I went there to tell my case, and complain to him; I know his name very well, his name is Sir Lionel Smith. The Governor asked who my master was, and whether I had ever been to a magistrate? I told him that I had been to Captain T. A. Dillon, who asked me what I wanted, and whether I wanted him to help me; that I told Captain Dillon, "No, I come to you to do justice, and you ought to do justice to the poor as well as to the rich;" that Captain Dillon then said, "he would see Mr. Strachan, and speak to him." I then told Governor that

that after Captain Dillon said he would see Mr. Strachan, and I never heard anything more about it; that I was obliged to come and appeal to massa Governor himself (this was in the last week of April). Sir Lionel Smith then said, "What's your name?" I said Robert Ferguson. The Governor then called to Mr. Parke, the custos and the master of Greenwich Park, and said, "Mr. Parke, set down Robert Ferguson, and see that he is well fed and gets clothes." I then went to the bay and kept on going to the court-house, but I never could find out where this feeding and clothing was to come from. Sometimes I used to go home and stop for two or three weeks; then I would go to the bay and stop there two or three weeks; at last Mr. Parke came to his house in the race week; this was about two months after I spoke to the Governor. I went to him, and he said, "Well, what's the matter?" I told him what I came about; Mr. Parke then said, "Since the Governor was here it is near three months, and you never go back to Southampton; I have a great mind to put you in the workhouse;" I don't know whether any gentleman was by. I said to Mr. Parke, "Master, I don't commit anything to be sent to the workhouse; I am not a runaway, and, even if I was at home, I could not do anything." The custos then said "You must go to Mr. Strachan;" I replied there is no use, Sir, Mr. Strachan is not going to give me anything, unless you give me a paper to him. The custos then said, "If I give you any paper it will be to send you to the workhouse." I then went away, as I could not get anything from him. When I used to go to the bay side I stopped at a place called Flat Point, where I had a few friends, and they used to assist me; I have not any better clothes than these ragged ones which I have on. Mr. Strachan has given me a few yards of Osnaburgh; but they are not made up. I remember meeting master at Southampton Pastures; it was after I had just come from seeing the Governor, and I had on a clean shirt and this pair of corduroy trousers, which were then quite new. As I was so clean people would not think that I was a beggar; but I am a beggar though. I am not a lazy negro; although I am blind, there are many things that I could do; if master would give me bark, I would make ropes for him; I could even clean a ground, if a person would carry me to the spot that I was to clean; I would do anything I could, if master would feed me.

Robert Grant, an Apprentice to Southampton; sworn.

I know Robert Ferguson; he is quite blind; I do not believe that Mr. Strachan ever gives him food, but the negroes assist him sometimes. I am certain that Mr. Strachan never gives him any food; he might have given him some corn, but I don't know anything about it. I remember his going to St. Ann's Bay; he stopped away about two weeks, and came back; Mr. Augwin, the old owner of Southampton, used to help Ferguson.

The Court here recommended Mr. Strachan to adopt the suggestion of Robert Ferguson, and furnish him with bark, for the purpose of making rope for the use of the property. They pointed out to Mr. Strachan the absolute necessity of conforming to the provisions of the Abolition Act, by giving to the man Ferguson all that he was entitled to receive as an apprentice of Southampton.

Enclosure 19, in No. 50.

Encl. 19, in No. 50.

Ann M'Clay's Case, an Apprentice to Lillyfield.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

Taken at *Brown's Town*, in the Parish of *St. Ann*, in the Case of *Ann M'Clay*, an Apprentice to *Lillyfield*, in the Parish of *St. Ann*.

TUESDAY, 26 September 1837.

Ann M'Clay, an Apprentice to Lillyfield; sworn.

Was in the workhouse at St. Ann's Bay, and danced the treadmill four days, once every day; had eight months belly; was delivered of a child six weeks after she came home. She was so large that every body could see it; was sentenced to ten days in the workhouse and treadmill, but only danced four days, as the boatswain said the paper said, I was to dance only four days. Did not knock my legs when dancing treadmill, but knocked my stomach. Went to work with the rest of the people. Mr. Rawlinson was the magistrate who sent me to the workhouse; the midwife on Lillyfield is named Mary Ann Slater. The child I was delivered of is now living and healthy. There were no other pregnant women in the workhouse when I was there, but three women who went in with me had young children at the breast. Mr. Rawlinson did not allow me to explain my case, he called me up and said, Mr. Higginbotham, the busha, said I had been impudent. I said, No. He then said to Mr. Higginbotham, "do you hear what she says?" Higginbotham again said that I was impudent. When sent to the workhouse and put on the mill, the boatswain said, "Take care and don't hack yourself; take time." The first day I was on the mill it was allowed to go slow on my account. The second time Mr. Drake came and said the mill is not going half hard enough. The boatswain told him I was pregnant, and Mr. Drake said, "it was nothing to him, the busha must have known whether I was so or not before he sent me." I was first worked on Saturday. On Monday Mr. Drake came and worked the mill himself. I did not tell Mr. Rawlinson that I was pregnant; but busha knew it. The second day after going from the mill I was sent to dig cane-holes. I did not faint on the mill, I had a good time in my lying-in, but after that I got the pain in my stomach and head, and my face swelled. I am certain I laid in six weeks after coming from the work-

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house. Thomas Henry was constable at that time. The Southfield and Lillyfield negroes work together. I was not married to the father of my child, I was living with him; he is living now. A special magistrate, who was living at St. Ann's Bay, came to the workhouse one day. The mill was not about; he did not come near enough to observe me. I was not put in the hospital, after I came back from the house of correction, to the time of the birth of my child. Frances Lawrence was sentenced to the workhouse with myself; she had not belly; she was a strong woman, and was to go on the treadmill the same number of times as myself, four times. She complained much after having been let out of pain in the stomach from the effects of the treadmill.

Doctor Tucker; sworn.

Knows last witness; cannot bring to mind whether she was pregnant or not when she was sent to the treadmill. Does not know when she was sent to the treadmill, nor did not see her after her return. Knows the Peshurst hospital; it was a carpenter's shop; it is not regularly floored; there are some loose boards on the ground. The sick people generally stop in their own houses, in fact, they will not go to the hospital; they often refuse it; it is not divided, there is one common room for men and women; cannot say whether the hospital is locked up at night; sees the sick people very frequently in the morning coming from their own houses. There is no regular hospital attendant; when the people are sick Miss Senior generally gives them medicine. Does not remember Amelia Lawrence. Mr. Senior does not keep a regular hospital book. Attends Dunbarton estate; knows Susan White; recollects having heard that she had been on the treadmill; she was frequently in the hospital; does not remember her having taken any quantity of calomel; remembers having seen a portion of her jawbone and two of her teeth detached, and expressed my opinion to Mr. Mallett, the overseer, that she had been undergoing salivation. She denied having received any injury. I asked if she had received a blow; she said "no." The state of the jaw might have been the effect of decayed teeth, or from some improper manner of extracting them. The teeth may have been extracted by a doctor-man at Orange Valley; they have proper instruments there for the purpose. I think there was no appearance at that time of pregnancy. She told me afterwards that she was breeding; did not hear of her delivery on my visits to the estate. I have seen some of Knapdale people returning from the workhouse with their legs bruised; does not know whether Elizabeth Osborn was one of them.

Mary Ann Slater, Midwife on Lillyfield; sworn.

I remember Ann M'Clay; when she returned from the workhouse I delivered her. I know she was with child before she went to the workhouse, but can't say what time she was delivered after her release. The overseer knew she was with child. I did not tell, but he must have known it, for her belly was big; any body could see that she was with child when she was sent to the workhouse. It might have been between one and two moons that she was delivered after her return; she had a good time, and gave birth to a noble child. I have been working in the great gang from the time of Mr. Man's return to this country before Mulgrave law, until Saturday, when I was put in the second gang. I am obliged, besides, to attend on women in childbirth. I am not remunerated either by my master or any of the women, except one, who gave me a gown last year, at Christmas. I am expected to attend to them, either in my own or estate time, by my master; but if I remain with them nine days I am paid back my two days afterwards. I was put to be a midwife about 17 or 18 years ago; I receive, however, no remuneration now for my time, if called upon during the night or my own hours in the week.

Thomas Henry, an Apprentice to Southfield; sworn.

I remember Ann M'Clay being sent to the workhouse; I carried her there; she was pregnant; I knew she was pregnant, because she was quite big and would not move briskly. I remember when she came home; she did not stand two months before she was delivered; Mr. Rawlinson was the magistrate who sent her. We set off at eight o'clock in the morning from Lillyfield, and reached St. Ann's workhouse at five o'clock in the evening; the distance is between six and seven miles. I carried four others down, some of whom had young children; three had children, Sarah Gallimore, Eliza Paisley, and Rebecca Anderson; the other woman was Frances Lawrence. They were all taken before the magistrate. The three women had their children with them when they were tried. Mr. Higginbotham, the overseer, carried them before him. In sending them to the workhouse, Mr. Higginbotham desired me to tie their hands back with rope; I said there was no occasion; and he replied, "If they get away you will stand to it." The policeman went with us all the way. Busha knew that the woman was with child; I told him so; he said he did not care about that. This was after the sentence was passed and the magistrate gone away.

THURSDAY, 28 September 1837.

Francis L. James, an Apprentice to Southfield; sworn.

I remember being carried by Thomas Henry to the workhouse; other women were with me; Sarah Gallimore, with a young child, Eliza Paisley, with a child, and Rebecca Anderson, with a child; Ann M'Clay also went; she had belly, and was in her seventh or eighth month; she was quite big; I heard her tell Mr. Higginbotham that she had belly, and he

he said that he did not care nothing at all about it ; I heard her tell the magistrate that she had belly the day she was tried ; the magistrate must have seen it ; the belly did not hide at all ; it was quite big. I think she went to the treadmill five days ; she danced it one time every day ; I saw her on it ; I was on it myself with her ; she danced the treadmill quite well ; when she was tired she cried out, and said, " I am quite faint ;" Mr. Drake said, " You must go on ; your time will soon be up ; you have to dance 20 minutes altogether before you come down." When her time was out she came down ; but she did not appear faintish ; when I was on the mill my shins were cut up quite bad ; so bad that when I came home I was obliged to lay up for a month ; I did not see the constable strike anybody when on the mill. The women were locked up by themselves at night ; the boatswains open the doors to let us out in the morning ; we slept with the chains on at night, and our feet were placed in shackles ; I never saw the boatswains attempt to have connexion with any of the women. The day we were carried to the workhouse we set away from shell-blow for dinner, and got down about four o'clock in the evening ; we could not go fast in consequence of the belly woman, Ann M'Clay, who could not walk fast ; when Ann M'Clay came home from the workhouse she was delivered some time after ; but I can't remember what time after she came home.

Sarah Gallimore, was christened by Parson Bridges ; sworn.

I remember being sent to the workhouse with Eliza Paisley, Rebecca Anderson, Frances L. James, and Ann M'Clay ; Ann M'Clay had eight months belly, she told me so ; she was quite big. She told the busha that she was with child, when she was about being sent to the workhouse ; she also told the magistrate, Mr. Rawlinson, so, when he ordered us to be sent to the dark room, before going to the workhouse. She danced the mill very well, but when she got faint, she called out, and the overlooker said, " Keep on, your time will soon be out ;" the time was for 10 minutes ; she remained in the workhouse 10 days, and went every day on the mill ; she worked every day with the gang in the field. It was not long after she came home that she was delivered, it might have been about two months. The rest had young children, except Frances James.

Eliza Paisley, an Apprentice to Southfield ; sworn.

I remember being carried to the workhouse by Thomas Henry. I was carried in company with Sarah Gallimore, Rebecca Anderson, Francis James, and Ann M'Clay. Ann M'Clay had big belly. Frances James had not any child, but the other women and myself had young children. We were all put on the treadmill together ; sometimes when the mill went on fast I cut my shins, which used to be smashed up when I finished dancing. Ann M'Clay was also bruised ; after we went home, Ann M'Clay was delivered. I don't remember the time she was delivered.

Rebecca Anderson, an Apprentice to Southfield ; sworn.

I remember being sent to the workhouse with Sarah Gallimore, Eliza Paisley, Ann M'Clay, and Frances James. I carried my child. It was near sun-down when we got to St. Ann's Bay. We started out of the dark room at dinner-time. Ann M'Clay was quite big. She told the busha that she had belly, and he said, he would send her down with us. I don't know if she told Mr. Rawlinson. Ann M'Clay danced every day on the treadmill with us. The treadmill is enough to disable anybody ; it cut my shins, and when I went home was quite sick. When Ann M'Clay came off she was quite faintish, and obliged to sit down to catch up herself. She went to the field to work with the rest of the gang, with a chain round her neck. I do not know when she was delivered, when we came home, as I was sick at Southfield, and she was at Lillyfield. We could not get pimento enough, while picking, to fill the task barrel ; it wanted but a' little. The same quantity was required from piccanini mothers as the great gang ; and because we did not complete the task we were put in the dungeon, and kept till next morning breakfast time without anything to eat or drink, and we were put in our wet clothes, the day being wet. They then carried us before the special magistrate, Mr. Rawlinson, who sentenced us to the workhouse. Did not hear him say for how many days. I heard him say we should be sent to the treadmill. On our way there, Thomas Henry allowed us to stop at our own houses to take something to carry with us to eat, and get dry clothes. No allowance was made, in task work, to those piccanini mothers who were obliged to walk on Mondays from Southfield to Lillyfield.

Enclosure 20, in No. 50.

Encl. 20, in No. 50.

Eliza Christie's Case, of Cave Valley.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

Taken on the subject of a Coroner's Inquest held on the body of a Woman named *Elizabeth Christie*, an Apprentice to Cave Valley Estate, in the parish of St. Ann.

TUESDAY, 26 September 1837.

Mr. *Joseph Isaacs*, Merchant at Brown's Town, sworn.

I AM in charge of Castleton plantation, adjoining Cave Valley. I think it was in November 1836 that I was summoned to attend an inquest at Cave Valley, upon a woman

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who had died in childbirth; I do not recollect her name. The overseer, Mr. Arkinstall, on the assembling of the inquest, mentioned to the jurors, that a hue and cry having been raised among the negroes on the property, from an idea they had got into their heads, that the woman in question had received a kick from one of the book-keepers, Mr. Malcolm Dow, he was anxious to have a full inquiry into the circumstances.

It was stated that a few weeks before her death, the woman having been at that time in the hospital, the overseer required the hospital-door to be locked in the evening at the usual time, I understood seven o'clock. On the book-keeper going to the hospital for that purpose, this woman wanted to go out; Mr. Dow shoved her back, but did not kick her.

For some weeks after this, the woman, it appeared, was about in her usual health, and only the day before her death was observed to carry home on her head a large basket of provisions.

The midwife of Cave Valley proved on the inquest, that she was called too late to be of any service to the deceased.

It was given in evidence that the mother of the deceased attempted to deliver her; but, finding that she could not accomplish it, called the midwife, who asked the mother if she had seen certain appearances; on the mother replying in the negative, the midwife said, "Then I have been called too late." The verdict of the jury was, "Died in childbirth, from cause or causes unknown." The jury was a full one, and sat two days on the inquiry; I believe Mr. Halsell, of Aboukir, was the foreman; I think the name of the woman was Eliza Christie.

THURSDAY, 28 September 1837.

Caroline Hall, late Doctor-woman of Cave Valley, now a Field-labourer on that Estate; sworn.

I knew Eliza Christie; she was breeding, and came into the hospital; busha wanted to give her a dose of tartar emetic when she came in; she said, "No," that she was breeding, and could not take it; she remained in the hospital two weeks, which was locked up at nights, by busha's orders, as the people could not go into the field. One evening Mr. Malcolm Dow, then book-keeper, came in to lock the hospital; while I was locking the bottom door, I heard some of the other people, who were in the same room with Eliza Christie, exclaim, "You see Mr. Dow take and kick Eliza Christie on the bottom of her belly." I heard this, but did not see Mr. Dow myself kick her; when I locked the door I went home to my house; on arriving there I heard all the apprentices hallooing, and on looking I saw them running along, some of them saying that Eliza Christie was dead; I immediately ran up myself, as I was the doctor-woman to the hothouse, and found a number of apprentices there; the busha ordered the door to be opened and I went in; I saw the wench lying down flat on her back, and her tongue out of her mouth; she could not speak, nor did she speak until the morning; no word came out her mouth till then. I could not do anything myself, as I did not know what to do, and I told the busha that he had better send the midwife, Eleanor Fisher, which he did; no flooding came away from her, nor any discharge whatever. The midwife and myself stopped with her all night until morning; she remained lying on her back all night in a senseless state, and when she first came to herself she opened her eyes and looked about; I then asked her, "What is the matter with you?" she replied, "Mr. Dow kicked me on my belly bottom." This was the first thing she said when she came to herself; this expression was heard by the midwife and Robert Morris, who was locked up with the rest, also by Fidelia Walker. When I was called at the inquest, the jurors asked me no question whatever connected with what I have now stated respecting the kick she received, and her state at that time; all that they asked me was, whether, when I went to the negro-houses after her delivery, I found her dead? I replied, "Yes, she was dead, and cold as a herring." This question was asked by the coroner, who did not ask me whether the woman got any wound in the hothouse; he told me that he gave me the oath to state only what I knew about the woman at the negro-house at the time of her death; I thought that the oath was given to me to state all I knew about the affair at the hothouse, but they did not question me at all about that; she got the kick on the Saturday afternoon, but I do not remember when she went out of the hothouse. Before she got the kick the doctor used to see her in the hothouse, and she complained of pains in the back; he told her she must take a cold bath every morning, and made me give her some magnesia occasionally. Doctor Tucker came to the hothouse the next week after the kick, and Eliza Christie did not tell him about the kick, although she used to complain of the pain from it. I never heard the busha say, I must send for the doctor at the time she got the kick, nor did busha's housekeeper, or anybody else, come from the great house to see her. I think she was delivered about two months after she got the kick. I stopped with her during the night that she got the kick, and through the next day; but as I found her getting better at night I went away. When busha came to the hothouse the night she got the kick, and saw her in the state described, he called out, "It is trick;" he came to the hothouse the next day after breakfast, but did not see anything; he never asked her any questions, nor did he inquire of anybody about the affair. The night that he went down he was told that she had been kicked; Robert Morris told him, when busha saw her the night she was lying down on her back, with her tongue out and breathing very hard, she was quite heavy with child; I was not present when she was delivered; after her delivery I heard of her death, as she died just

as she delivered her child. Mr. Campbell the book-keeper, and myself, went; she was dead and quite cold. The child was not a healthy-looking child; it appeared to be a seven-months' child, and was quite droopy, droopy! I did not examine the child myself, but Margaret Christie, the sister of the woman, said that it had a mark under the privates; it was she that suckled the child, having herself an infant at the breast at the time. The night that the woman was kicked, I did not examine to see if there was any mark or injury; but the midwife took the handkerchief off my head and tied it round Eliza Christie's stomach, just below the breast, to keep the little one down, and we then took a spoon and put a little hartshorn and water in it, which we tried to get down her throat, and then endeavoured to put her tongue in; she was not frothing at the mouth. She never went to the magistrate, Captain T. A. Dillon, to complain about the kick, but her sister Margaret did; when she returned, I saw her bring two letters, which she carried to the busha, and when she brought them I did not hear myself, but I heard some of the apprentices say, that when Captain T. A. Dillon came, busha told him that Mr. Dow and the woman had settled their business already; Captain Dillon then went away. I don't know how the business was settled; I don't know if any money was paid to make it up. The woman's husband is named Adam Christie. On the night of the kick the woman breathed very hard and short, catching up her breath every now and then; she never came to at all until the next morning. Since I was there in the hothouse, I have been broken as doctor-woman and sent into the field, for the following reason: My husband was sick in the negro house; I was married to him in his sickness, and had lived with him before; after finishing my morning's work at the hospital one day, I carried a little breakfast to give him; while I was there the busha went to the hothouse and found me absent; I went and found him standing at the gate near the hothouse; he then said, "You shall never be doctor-woman for me any more." When he told me that, I said I could not go into the field as I had been a doctor-woman too long; I had been a doctor-woman for five years; I had been put there by Mr. Cameron, the former overseer, and before then I used to mind fowls and do light work sometimes in the field, as I was a sickly woman. Busha made no answer, but drove me away. I then went to Captain T. A. Dillon, who said that I must go home, and when he came upon the property he would settle the affair; he did come, and asked the busha why he put me into the field; whether I had done him anything? the busha said "No." Captain Dillon told me, "Well, you must stop in the field until busha and you agree again." Before I went to Captain Dillon, when busha told me I must go to the field, and I said I would not, he and a man named Henry Gordon, who was a house-servant, began to pull me, one one way and one the other; busha took his big stick that he had in his hand and jammed me in the stomach; Robert Morris was present.

The magistrates here explained to this woman, that she is to claim her freedom on the next 1st of August, as she is entitled to it as a doctor-woman.

FRIDAY, 29 September 1837.

Mr. John Campbell, Book-keeper on Cave Valley; sworn.

All that I know is that when Mr. Arkinstall took charge in September, the negroes were in a very insubordinate state. One evening in October the sick negroes were ordered into the hospital to be locked up, as was usual, and they refused to go in; the book-keeper, I am told, said that they must go, and they were forced to go in, but I don't know what force was used to compel them to go in; as far as I understand, the doctor-woman was there at the time. When I came from the cattle-pen I went to the hothouse between half-past six and seven, and found Eliza Christie laying down on her back quite senseless and apparently in a fit. I remained in the hothouse about an hour; she was attended to by the overseer himself, who did everything in his power to restore her; I cannot say whether a doctor was sent for that night; she came too a little, and spoke rather inarticulately, but the next morning when I saw her she was quite come too, and was walking about. The overseer on the night sent for the midwife; in a few days she was well enough to go out of the hothouse; she came too during the night. The book-keeper, who is alleged to have kicked her, was at the hospital with the overseer and myself; the people appeared to be much irritated, and said that Mr. Dow had killed Eliza Christie; this was generally said among them, but I don't recollect any particular individual who said so; Mr. Dow did not deny having kicked her; he said that he might have done so, but that he did so inadvertently. The woman herself, Eliza Christie, said to Mr. Dow that she knew he did not intend to do her any harm; she was hurt at the time but got better afterwards; she was quite well and hearty. The body was examined at the time of the accident by the overseer and other people, who said that they did not observe any external injury. I was examined at the coroner's inquest; I took the depositions; there were two inquests; the coroner could not come up as he was sick, and not considering it a serious case, I think that he deputed another gentleman to act for him. Eliza Christie died on the 22d November 1835, and the inquest was held the next day. I do not know who acted as coroner: I do not know who acted as foreman; evidence was taken, and the body examined. I took the depositions myself; I did not keep them. Eleanor Fisher, Caroline Hall, and Margaret Christie were examined; Mr. Dow was not examined, at all events not on that day. Evidence was taken with respect to the accident, and the state in which the deceased was found immediately afterwards. I do not recollect whether the midwife was sworn that day; her evidence was confined to the circumstances connected with her delivery. All that

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that Caroline Hall said was that she found the woman in a fit; that was all that I heard her say that had reference to the night at the hothouse; she did not give any evidence about the circumstances connected with the delivery and death. I remember that the gentlemen expressed their opinion, "That Eliza Christie died by the visitation of God;" but I do not know that they put that opinion in writing. The negroes expressed their disapprobation at this, as they did not see the coroner present, and the overseer immediately sent again for the coroner. The child was born alive; I was not present when the regular inquest was held; I was not allowed to be there; I do not know whether Mr. Dow was examined; the jurors on the regular inquest assembled about mid-day, and sat until it was quite dark; I never heard whether they were divided in opinion. When people are sick in the hospital they generally get any little thing from the table; I cannot say anything about oatmeal or such things being administered, as I do not attend the hospital; the overseer will be better able to say that.

At the suggestion of Captain T. A. Dillon, sundry questions were put to this witness, who said, I remember a man named Richard Smith; he was and is head-constable at Cave Valley; he had a stone bruise and caught cold, in consequence of which his legs all swelled, and part of his body. The overseer, finding him in such a poor state, gave him one of the rooms in the barracks; he gave him every day breakfast, dinner and supper, off the table, in the same way as he would to any of the book-keepers; after he left the barracks, and went into the field as constable, he was treated in the same way until he perfectly recovered.

Captain T. A. Dillon here stated that he thought it essential to have this evidence elicited, as he was of opinion that it was equally a material part of his duty to state any cases of humanity which might come under his notice as to punish bad behaviour; and he therefore thought this a fitting occasion to remark, that he considered the conduct of Mr. Arkinstall, to the sick people on Cave Valley, deserving the highest commendation. Captain Dillon further remarked, that he could not help noticing, that he was in a district in which the peasantry was as well behaved as any peasantry in England; that punishments were so unfrequent as not to exceed two in 100 in a population of 5,000 apprentices; in fact, he did not know a finer peasantry in the world.

The witness went on to state, that after the holding of the regular inquest, the irritation of the people subsided.

Mr. Joseph Isaacs, Merchant at Brown's Town; sworn.

About two or three weeks before the death of Eliza Christie, she came to me at Castleton, with an order for some goods, to be placed to the account of Malcolm Dow; I told her, "Go to Brown's Town, and you will get the goods;" she was in perfect health and strong; she had to walk up about three miles of a very steep hill to see me at Castleton; she did not say how the order was given to her; nor were the things delivered, as the overseer heard of the order being given, and would not allow the things to be delivered, as it would appear as if they were given as a compromise of crime, and he did not think that the book-keeper had acted any way wrong. The value of the order was from 3*l.* to 4*l.* I was at the regular inquest; we met at 12 o'clock, and we finished at five. The doctor-woman was examined, so were Mr. Arkinstall and Mr. Dow. No proof whatever was given on either occasion of her having received any kick. The hothouse-woman gave in evidence, that she had heard the woman cry out that she was kicked, but that she did not see it. It was also proved in Court, that the overseer, Mr. Arkinstall, on that night, had given her restoratives, and that she recovered. The hothouse-woman was not interrupted in her evidence. All that we required was, to know whether the woman had received any injury from the kick. On the day of the first inquiry, Mr. Dow was present, and was asked some questions; he did not say that he had kicked her inadvertently; all that he said was, that he wanted to lock up the hospital door, and she would not go in; he shoved her in. Margaret Christie, the sister who took charge of the child, was present, and was examined; I saw the child myself; it was a regular grown child, and apparently healthy.

Mr. *Campbell* recalled.—Caroline Hall is now removed from the hospital, and works in the field; she was removed about five or six months after the accident; she was discharged by the overseer in consequence of frequent absence from the hospital; she did not leave the hospital willingly; to my knowledge force was not necessary to compel her to go into the field. There is a large inclosure round the hothouse, so large that the doctor-woman has a very good garden in it. There is a gate attached with a lock, and when Caroline Hall absented herself she took away the key, which was the cause of the overseer's anger.

Robert Morris, a Field Apprentice on Cave Valley; sworn.

I remember Eliza Christie; I was in the hospital with her; I was in the room appropriated for the men, adjoining the women's room; the door between the two rooms was open. The sun was half down, not quite down, and the book-keeper came in and opened the hothouse door; his name is Mr. Dow; he came to lock the door, and the girl, Fidelia Walker, was putting her victuals on the fire within the railing, which surrounded the hothouse; he heaved away a stick with which she was stirring the victuals, and on her speaking to him about his doing so, he collared her, and wanted to put her in the dark room; she said she would not go, and he sent for the constable, Thomas Wilson, who, on coming up, was going to take hold of her, and she said, "If you hold me you will get into trouble;" he

he then desisted. The book-keeper went and told busha that the people would not go into the hothouse to be locked up without eating anything, and busha said, "Muns't bother with such rubbish." When the constable came, I told the other people, "Better make us go in, as the law is as well for we as for busha;" when I said so, they went in; the men and women were then put in their separate rooms. The room in which the men were had a "temple," that of the women had not a "temple." When the book-keeper was locking up the mens' room, Eliza Christie called out, saying, "Don't lock the room, because I shall want to go out at night to ease myself, as all of us women have taken physic; this she said to the book-keeper; busha was present, standing in the passage near the doors of the two rooms. I told the busha, "If you lock the women's room, don't lock that of the men, because if anything happens to anybody at night, one of us can call out from the window in the passage;" busha said, "I don't care, I must have the door locked;" he also said, "The black parson! you want to go and preach out;" he then ordered the book-keeper to lock the men's door. The book-keeper then held the women's door to lock it, and Eliza Christie held it too; says she, "Busha, look how I stand." I stood up against the men's door, facing that of the women, and the book-keeper and women still held the door; when the book-keeper found that he could not draw the door, as the women were striving to keep it open, and he to shut it, he fired his foot after them, but they still kept holding the door. I then ran to the book-keeper, and said, "Book-keeper, don't fire your foot so, as this woman is not one woman, she is with child." The busha then said, "I don't care, the door must be locked." The book-keeper then fired his foot again, and hit Eliza Christie a kick, and I heard the kick go "bup," meaning thereby the sound made; then Eliza Christie cried out, "Morris, I am done;" she let the door go then, and they locked it; she kept crying out for her belly, exclaiming, "My belly, O! my belly, O!" The doors were all locked, and they went away. After busha went out into the hothouse-yard, I called to him, saying, "Busha, how you lock up all the door, then da going, and the one you kick down fo' dead, da lying 'pon him belly, and thing happen to him how we can see?" He made for answer, "Mr. Dow, come along, never mind what the bloody old parson is saying." I called out to him from a little jealousy window, which was in the men's room. Busha went away, and soon after, by the time he could get to his house, and sit down, a woman, named Letitia Campbell, who was locked up with Eliza Christie, called to me and said, "The woman is 'pon dying;" I told her as the women's room was facing busha's house, "Put your mouth to the jealousy, and hail to the busha;" she did so. When the woman hailed, the busha would not come; he said they were making game. The servant, Henry Gordon, came to the fence and said, "Busha says you are making game, and he won't come." I then hallooed out to the negro houses for Eliza Christie's sister, Margaret Christie, and when she came I told her what was the matter, and she went to busha for the key; he would not give it, and she came back to the fence, and was returning to the negro house, when I told her, "You had better not go to the negro house again, if the door is not opened in two minutes' time, your sister will die." She went back to the busha in a great hurry. Eliza Christie could not speak at the time; Margaret Christie screamed so loud that all the people came up from the negro houses, and the busha became frightened, and came and opened the door. All the doors were opened, and I went into the women's room, and saw Eliza Christie laying down on her back with her tongue hanging out of her mouth, quite black; they wanted to turn her, and I said, "We don't know anything about it;" you had better call the midwife; they did so. The busha sent for hartshorn, and every thing, and being come, he stopped there until the midwife came; the midwife then began rubbing the child, who at this time was situated very high up the womb; she took a handkerchief, and tied it about the stomach, and began to rub, and rub, and rub, until the child went lower down, and then the woman breathed very short and heavy. Caroline Hall came up with the rest of the people and the busha; she came before the midwife; she came up to lock the door at the proper time, but it had been already locked by the busha and the book-keeper. When the busha came up, I told him, and the women told him, that it was the kick in the belly which made the woman so. I know that Mr. Dow was sent away by busha from the property; he was dismissed from his situation soon after, but I don't know for what cause. The day after the kick, Mr. Dow's kept-mistress sent and called Margaret Christie; this was on Monday morning. I went into the hothouse room, and saw a paper; Eliza Christie said that the paper was brought by her sister from Mr. Dow, and that it was to be sent to Mr. Isaacs to take anything she wanted out of the store. I then told her she was a fool, that if she knew she was going to take the paper, she should not have gone to the magistrate at all; I said, "I don't want to hear anything," and I went away. I don't know whether the paper was carried after that to Mr. Isaacs. I was not called up before the coroner, neither before any magistrate. After the accident Eliza Christie did not go to her ground, she kept walking about with her stick, bending and holding her belly; she walked so until the time she was delivered. I think with the assistance of a stick, and taking time, she might have walked up to Castleton. When the coroner was come, I asked if any magistrate was come; I was told that no magistrate had come, but that Mr. Isaacs was come. I said, "What have you done with the paper?" I said this to Margaret; she replied, "I gave it to Mr. Isaacs."

Margaret Christie, Apprentice to Cave Valley; sworn.

I remember my sister, Eliza-Christie; she is now dead; I remember her in the hospital with bad belly. I came home one night from my ground; I heard a man named Robert

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Morris crying out "Margaret Christie! Margaret Christie!" I did not speak at first; he called out again "Margaret Christie!" I said "Eh;" he replied, "Your sister won't live." I went to the hothouse gate, and said, "What do you say, Robert Morris?" He replied, "Go to the busha for the hothouse key, and come and see what is the matter with your sister." I went to the busha, and said, "Busha, let me have the hothouse key, Mr. Dow has kicked my sister, and she won't live;" busha said, "I won't give the key; your sister is only making a sham in the hospital." I went straight back to the negro house. Robert Morris then cried out again for me, saying, "Run here;" by the time I could go to hammer the gate with a stone, all the people ran up to the place from the negro houses; when at the gate, I could not get the key from Mr. Dow; the busha then came himself, before the key could be got from Mr. Dow; he took the key then, went in himself into the hothouse yard, and locked the gate; he would allow no one to go in. When he locked the gate, I stood up outside until busha went into the hospital, and after doing what he thought necessary to restore my sister, he came out, and said, "If any one wants to go and see this girl they can go in." I went in, but did not stop a minute, as I had left my child at the negro house; I left the midwife and doctor-woman with her. When I went into the hothouse she was laying down on her back, her tongue was not out then; busha had previously applied hartshorn and other things, as I suppose; it was so understood. In the morning I went to Captain T. A. Dillon, the special magistrate, and he asked "What was the matter?" I told him Mr. Dow took and kicked my sister last night, and she would not have lived until day if busha had not attended to her. Captain Dillon asked why the wench had not come herself to Retirement to him; I said, that she was not able to walk; he said, he would give me a letter to busha till he came himself to the property, and he would see Mr. Dow. I carried the letter to busha, and went to my house, and was sitting down, when a woman, who Mr. Dow was living with, came to call me; I went, and he gave me a paper, saying "Take this paper to Mr. Isaacs, it is an order for you;" this was the day after I went to the magistrate. Mr. Dow said, "Take this to Mr. Isaacs, at Brown's Town; it is an order for nine dollars, and it is given to you for the kick I kicked your sister." I said, "How can I take this paper from you? The magistrate told me to stop till he comes to Cave Valley to settle the business." He replied, that busha read the letter of the magistrate to him, and that the magistrate said in the letter, "If the business could be settled before he came, that he must try and do it." When Mr. Dow told me this, I took the paper from him, and carried it to my house. I said, "If massa magistrate happen to call me when he comes up, I will answer him with this paper." I was in the field when the magistrate came, but I don't know whether he called for me; nobody called me out of the field. My sister was still in the hothouse. I saw her in the hothouse, and she knew nothing of the paper; she had not settled with Mr. Dow. About two weeks after, when she came out of the hothouse, I gave the paper to her, and told her that I understood that Mr. Isaacs was over at this place. I said, "If you can walk softly, go to him, and hear what he says about the paper." She carried it, and brought it back again, saying, that Mr. Isaacs said the paper must come down to Brown's Town. I then sent it by the cartman, but it was returned; I did not get any thing for it. On the day when the paper came back, the coroner was at Cave Valley, holding an inquest on my sister; I gave the coroner the paper, and he handed it to Mr. Isaacs; I don't know what was done with it afterwards. When my sister was taken in labour, she sent for the midwife, who was at the overseer's house cooking his dinner; she returned for answer, that she was just taking up dinner, and could not come; but as soon as she was done, she would come down. My mother, Peggy Christie, who was a midwife at "Rosetta," went to assist my sister; I was present; my mother assisted her until the little one had just come away from her, when the breath went out of her body. The child born was a boy, and had marks all about the lower part of the belly; it was quite black and blue; it was also swelled; my mother saw the marks; the hothouse woman and the midwife also saw them, who came down just as the child was born: my sister was just dead when she came down. All that I have stated here, I stated to the coroner at Cave Valley. My sister always stopped when walking, up to the time of her death, complaining of pain in her belly. I can't say whether she ever went to the doctor. I don't think that the child came to its full time; the child only lived four days; I gave it suck; the first day it took to the breast, but not afterwards; it was hurt in the same place that my sister was kicked. When she was delivered, she said, "Take away the baby, and mind it good; I am going to die." By the time we hallooed for the doctor-woman to bring the hartshorn, she died. She was not a very healthy woman before she received the injury; she was always a poorly woman, and this was her first child. The child did not die of locked jaw.

Eleanor Fisher, Midwife on Cave Valley; sworn.

I remember Eliza Christie. I was in the apprentice-yard the night when they hallooed out from the bothouse that Eliza Christie was dead; I ran up directly, but the gate of the yard was locked; the key was brought, and the gate opened, and I and busha went in; I went in a minute or two before the busha, and found Eliza Christie laying down, and two or three people holding her up; her tongue was out of her mouth. I then took the doctor-woman's handkerchief, and tied it round her body to keep the little one down. If I had not gone there, and knew what to do, she must have died that night; I did all I could to save her, and when I found that she was getting better, I left her. We stopped with her a good bit. She remained in the bothouse about three weeks after that; in the fourth week busha

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sent her out; she did not wish to remain in the hothouse then, as it was time for her to get ready for delivery. She used to walk about with a stick, and stooped while walking; she did not use to stoop before that. At the time of her delivery they sent for me; I was minding busha's dinner, and said I would go down as soon as busha's dinner was sent up; I went down as soon as I could, and told the girl who came to call me to put on a pot of water, so that I may put her over it, to see and get away the after-birth; by the time the water was ready, she was a corpse. She was taken in labour, with a sort of lingering pain, on the Sunday morning; instead of the mother calling me at that time, she attended to her herself, and it was only when she found that she could not get away the after-birth, they sent for me; when I went down the child was already shifted. I often heard that Eliza Christie's mother was a midwife at Rosetta; she never practised at Cave Valley. The child was a little bit of a thing; it was not a full-grown child; it lived about two weeks. The private parts were all swelled and bloated up, like as if filled with water; it showed that it had received a wound while in the belly. I can't say whether the kick was the cause of her death; I did not examine the mother's belly at the time of the kick; she was always a sickly woman. I was called up before the coroner at the inquest, and told them only what they asked me about, the delivery and death; I was never asked anything about the mark on the child, or the affair at the hothouse. I was only asked to relate what I knew when I was called to the negro house, at the time of the delivery of the woman. She always walked lame and sickly-like before the affair at the hothouse, and stooped, with her hand placed generally on the small of her back. The sister took good care of the child after its birth.

Fidelia Walker, Apprentice to Cave Valley; sworn.

I remember Eliza Christie; I was in the hospital with her. The book-keeper came to lock the door before the sun-down, and we told him, "Book-keeper, it is so late before we are let out in the morning, you lock us up all day, and you only let us out in the evening, and it is not time to lock us up; we have not had time to cook any victuals yet; they are on the fire now and not finished; give us time to cook them." He said he would not wait. I had a stick in my hand, turning my victuals, and he took it from me and flung it over the fence; he then called out to busha, and said we would not go in. Busha was coming along, with a big stick in his hand; he said, "Make the b——y old w——e go in, or I'll take this stick and knock them down." Busha then overset the pots with the victuals, knocking them off with his stick; and when we saw him coming up to us, we ran up to the hothouse. Book-keeper and busha then came in, and ordered the women's room to be locked, and we said, "Don't do that, for as the temple is in the next room, if you lock us up how can we go there when we want?" Eliza Christie, the belly-woman, went up and begged busha and book-keeper not to lock the door; busha then said it should be locked. Book-keeper held the door one way and we held it the other; he then fired kicks, one of which hit me on my hand; presently I heard the belly-woman fall, and cry out, "Lord! Mr. Dow has killed me; he has kicked me on my belly." I did not see the kick, but I heard the noise of the fall. When she tumbled down we let go the door, and the book-keeper locked it and went away. Eliza Christie then tumbled about, and after we did not hear her speak for some time; we were eating our victuals. Letitia Campbell called out, "You are all eating, you don't go to see what is done to the woman." We then went, and, on putting our hands to her stomach, felt that she was not blowing; we then hallooed out. Robert Morris told us not to halloo, by-and-by busha would think it was a lie we were calling out; that he would halloo for her sister; he did so, and told her to go to busha for the key, and come and see what do her sister. After some time she came back, and said that busha would not give her the key. We then began to halloo out loud, and busha and his boy, Henry Gordon, came down; candles were brought in, and then the doctor woman and Eleanor Fisher rubbed her down with the hartshorn which the busha brought. Eleanor Fisher then took a handkerchief and tied her stomach, to make the piccaniny keep down; she laid down quite senseless, but I did not see her tongue. I did not look at her at first, as I thought she was dead, and no fire in the hothouse, as it is never allowed. I was never called before the coroner's jury at all, nor examined in any way whatever.

Robert Morris, recalled.—I do not think it possible for Eliza Christie to get to her ground, which is three miles distant from Cave Valley, and return with a load of victuals; I am certain that I must have seen it, if she had done so.

Catharine Hanson, a Non-predial to Cave Valley; sworn.

I am keeping the great house; I was in the negro house at the time of the accident, and heard the noise from there; a crying out. I ran up to the yard, and saw the rest of the people there; they were crying out that Mr. Dow kicked Eliza Christie; some of the people broke the gate to get into the hothouse-yard, and then ran into the yard. The hothouse-door was opened, but I did not go in; I looked through the window, and saw the woman lying down with a little of her tongue out; it was a sash-window I looked through; I did not see much of the woman, as there was a great number of people about her; the people were making an uproar. Mr. Campbell, one of the book-keepers, after the gate was broken open and the busha in the hothouse, said, "If I was in Mr. Dow's place, I would take my bayonet and run through these people, for I have killed many a good slave in St. James, who was far better than these people." Mr. Dow then ran up and took his gun, and a

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constable, named Thomas Gordon, went up and took it from him. The people were saying, "It is a pretty piece of business that people should get killed without deserving it;" they did not threaten Mr. Dow. The overseer said, when in the hothouse, "There is nothing the matter with this woman;" he meant that she was only making a sham. I was the person who came to Mrs. Clarke, the minister's wife, and told her all about it, and she took a note of it. I came down to mention the circumstance to the two gentlemen who came from England, but they were gone. I heard that Mr. Dow offered 5*l.* to make the business up. I believe she lived about five weeks after the affair; I don't know how long the child lived. I heard that the husband of the woman went to Captain T. A. Dillon, but I don't know what he went about. The gate of the hothouse is always locked up, and the people also locked up in the hothouse; the door opens at six in the morning, and when the overseer gets his breakfast at eight o'clock, by nine o'clock or sooner the hothouse and the people are locked up again; they get their breakfast while they are out; it is opened a little before five in the evening for them to get their supper, and they are locked up again after five o'clock, or about sun-down, till the next day; if their families carry them anything when the doors are locked, they cannot get in. The hothouse-woman, when she locks the doors and gate, goes to the negro houses, so that if the busha comes when she is not there, he can't get in; if we have any family sick in the hothouse, we cannot go to give them any nourishment, and they do not get any from the property. I saw Mr. Dow in the evening of the affair; he appeared in liquor; Mr. Campbell was not.

John Hogg, Carpenter on Cave Valley; sworn.

I was in my house, at supper, on the night of the accident, and heard a great noise; I went out, and heard the people calling "Murder!" in the yard. I went up, and saw the hothouse-yard locked up; the people told me that Mr. Dow kicked Eliza Christie; they could not get in. I went to the step with the people to busha. I saw busha with a light; he had on his trousers and shirt; we assisted him, as he was lame; he went with us to the hospital; the door of the hospital was open. Busha said, "Let the people wait outside, nobody must come in; I will go and see what all this is about;" he then went in; one of the constables stopped outside to keep out the crowd. The head-constable and myself went in with busha. I saw the woman, and busha felt her hand, and said, "Her pulse is beating," and desired me to feel her hand; I said, "Yes, it is, but very slow." Busha used hartshorn to endeavour and recover her; when it was finished, he said to me, "Hogg, go to the house, and ask for the spirits of hartshorn;" I got it, and carried it to the hospital. Busha threw some into a spoon and mixed it, and threw it down her throat; her tongue was then a little out: he also mixed some in a pan head of water, and threw it in her face, and she made a sigh. The busha said, "Nobody must remain here, she is getting better; nobody must remain here but the doctor-woman and midwife." The people were bouncing against the gate, when I came up, to break it open, and when the busha came up the book-keeper gave the key, and the gate was opened. I did not see a gun in Mr. Dow's hand; the people said he had a gun, and the constable went and took it away. I heard him say, when I came out, if the people did not go away, and stand up and talk much there, he would powder-shot them. I saw the woman after she came out of the hospital. Some time afterwards, on a Thursday, I met her on a road between Barracks and Cave Valley; she said she was going to Barracks, about two miles and a half; she walked very slow and stooping, as she was heavy with child. I saw her the next day, sitting down, but I did not speak to her; the people said she had gone to Castleton with a paper. I never saw her at that time with a load of provisions on her head; she might have had strength or not, I cannot say. I was before the coroner; I was asked the same questions as I have been asked to-day. I related the same as I have done now; but I don't know the names of the gentlemen who were there the first time. The gate of the hothouse is locked up all day. With regard to the hospital itself, the door is opened a quarter after five in the morning, the people look about their breakfast, and after busha's breakfast, and sometimes before, the door is locked and the people put in. At four o'clock it is opened again, and about half-past five, or five, or at any time the book-keeper comes, whether the victuals are dressed or not, the people are obliged to go in to be locked up again. They never get time to come out at twelve o'clock; if you have any family there, you must carry whatever you wish to give them to the doctor-woman; she receives and gives it, and if she is not there you must wait or carry it away. The day the people come in, if they are given emetic, rhubarb or jalap, they are locked up that day; and the next day, if the medicine is finished operating, they are locked up.

SATURDAY, 30 September 1837.

Dr. Johnson; sworn.

From the evidence of Eleanor Fisher, I think it impossible that the child could have been in the position stated to have been found by her when she went to the hospital, without a rupture of the womb, which must have produced speedy death; there might have been a slight tumefaction about the stomach, caused by the womb pressing on the intestines while she was lying down. With regard to the mark on the child, that might have been produced from protracted labour, or violence during delivery; had it been the effect of a blow, of such violence as stated, it might have caused either a rupture of the womb or premature birth. I do not think that if the child had been in a natural position in the womb,

womb, that the wound could have been inflicted on the part described by the witness, Eleanor Fisher.

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Mr. *Arkinstall*, Overseer on Cave Valley ; not sworn, but examined after the Evidence of the other Witnesses had been read to him.

I was coming from the cattle-pen, when I heard a noise from the people; the sun was down; it was about dusk when I heard the noise; I went into the outer door of the yard, and saw the book-keeper and people just going into the hothouse; I saw the book-keeper put his hand upon somebody with a sort of push; I did not go to the hothouse itself; I heard Fidelia Walker say that she had a pan of water on the fire; I directly said it was time for all pans to be off the fire, and I took a stick and upset it; I then went away; I heard them making a great noise in the hothouse, but I did not hear what they said; I told the book-keeper to come away and lock the outer door, that is to say, the door of the railing. I went into the house and was going to bed; the book-keepers had got their supper and gone away; I heard a terrible noise, and they came and told me that this woman was dead; I said I could not believe it, it was only a sham; they then made halloobaloo, and broke the hothouse-door open; I called for a light, and put on my trousers and shoes and went to the hospital; I found the key of the yard-door was not wanted; the book-keeper had the key, but they had broken the door and got in; the hothouse-door was locked; I opened it and went in, and found the woman laying down on her back; her tongue was out; I sent for some hartshorn; in the meantime I had got a light; I took hold of both her arms, and found her pulse perfectly good; I said to the woman herself, "What fun is this you are making, my woman? Nothing is the matter with you." In the meantime the hartshorn came; I put about two-thirds of a teaspoonful of hartshorn in a teaspoon, and mixed it with some water and put it in her mouth; I then mixed some hartshorn and water in a pan, which I sprinkled with my fingers on her face; I also took some hartshorn in a spoon, dipped my fingers in it and rubbed her temples; in the meantime I let one drop go into one of her eyes: she immediately set up a roaring, put her tongue in, and turned herself on her side; I made the doctor-woman still keep on rubbing her with a little hartshorn and water; I staid there about a half or three-quarters of an hour, and went away; I told the doctor-woman to remain there all night. The midwife was not at the hothouse at all when I was there; I never saw her there on the occasion, nor never sent for her. The woman never spoke nor raised herself up, she only turned; the next morning I went to the hothouse.

Eleanor Fisher, recalled.—I am certain that the busha came down when the noise was great; he went into the hothouse, and I went at the same time a little before him; busha was rubbing the woman with hartshorn, and while he was doing that I stood up without doing anything quite near him. All went in together, and before busha began to rub her down with hartshorn, I took the handkerchief off the doctor-woman's head and tied round Eliza Christie's stomach, to make the child go down.

Mr. *Arkinstall*, in continuation.—The midwife might have done what she said, but I never saw her; I cannot say, but, to the best of my knowledge, I don't think the doors to the men and women's apartments were locked. I heard the people talking about kicks, but I saw none; I was not in the passage at all; I was outside. I did not consider that the book-keeper was drunk on the night, neither was he sober; he was not incapable to do his duty; he was dismissed a day or two after the inquest. Mr. Anderson, the attorney, came the week following the inquest; I told him the circumstance, saying, I wished to discharge him, and he advised me to do so. I told Dr. Anderson that the Negroes were quite dissatisfied with him, and that I was not satisfied at any time with his general behaviour, and I thought it was necessary to discharge him. I sent to the coroner, on the death of the woman, in conformity to the law, and, as something was the matter with him, he sent to request me to get a magistrate to attend; I then merely got a few gentlemen, as I could not get a magistrate, to see the body, who would have formed the jury had the coroner attended; and after they had made a memorandum as to their opinion, finding the negroes dissatisfied, I sent for the coroner; no witnesses called upon that day. I might have requested Captain T. A. Dillon to have attended as a magistrate, and I ought to have done so, but I did not. The coroner came the next day after the meeting of the gentlemen; the hothouse affair was made a special part of the inquiry; I was called upon to give evidence, and stated all that I knew, and answered all the questions that were asked; but I do not know whether I stated all that I have done here this day; I was never asked the question as to the general report of the woman having received her injury from the kick, and I did not think it necessary for me to say so; neither did I say anything about the sum offered to make up the affair. I was asked no questions, therefore did not say anything. I do not recollect whether Robert Morris was examined. The jury assembled between eleven and twelve o'clock, and broke up between four and five o'clock. I did not hear of any difference of opinion among them; I sent for the people who were examined. About the third day after, I went in at night to the hospital; Eliza Christie came to me and said, she wanted to go out, as she was coming close to her time. This was about the 19th of October; she went out, and died about the 22d November. I was present when Margaret Christie began to give her evidence, but not during the whole; in fact, the coroner would not allow me to stop. Dr. Tucker was not present at the coroner's inquest, to my knowledge; I did not see him, as I was not there the whole time; I did not send for Dr. Tucker at all. The jurors sent for me, after I went away, to inquire what I knew about the matter of the woman-in-the-hospital affair; I told them that it was a common talk among the

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negroes that the woman had received injury from the kick; I don't swear that I said so. I did not send for Mr. Dow to be present at the inquest.

Mr. *Joseph Isaacs*, recalled.—I am certain that Doctor Tucker was present on the day of the inquest before the coroner. The jurors were Mr. Crosdale, of Cave River, who was foreman; Mr. M'Crone, overseer of Greenock; Mr. George Houghton Reid, of York Valley; Mr. David Cammack, of Boroughbridge; Mr. William Wilson, of Arbuthnot; Mr. Hymen Morris, of Mount Nebo; Mr. William Peart, overseer of May-day; Mr. James Dougal, book-keeper on Aboukir; Mr. Elias Borough, and myself. Mr. Crosdale, Mr. Reid, Mr. Halsall, Mr. M'Crone, and myself, were all who were present the first day. Margaret Christie, John Hogg, Eleanor Fisher, Caroline Hall, and Mr. Arkinstall, were there the first day and gave evidence, but of course were not sworn. Mr. Dow was there all the time, but he was not examined the first day as far as I can recollect; he was also there the whole time the second day, but I am not certain whether he was examined. As soon as the inquest assembled, Mr. Arkinstall was there from the commencement to the close of the proceedings, to the best of my knowledge. Margaret Christie told the jurors that her sister had received a kick, and the jurors then tried to find out if there was any evidence to prove that such was the fact.

Q. Do you recollect whether Mr. Arkinstall was asked whether (after the evidence given by Margaret Christie, with respect to the kick) he had brought forward every person who could give evidence upon the subject?—I don't know whether he was asked that question, but the question was asked, "Is there any more evidence?" This was asked by the jurors, but I am not certain whether the question was put to Mr. Arkinstall; we looked round a long time, and as no further evidence was adduced, we gave our verdict.

Did or did not the circumstance related respecting the kick, occupy the serious attention of the jury?—No, it did not. Upon further consideration Mr. Isaacs said, "Yes, it did."

To Mr. *Arkinstall*. Were all the persons who happened to be in the hothouse as patients on the evening of the alleged inquiry, sent for to give evidence before the jury?—They were.

Who was it that called to you out of the hothouse on your going away, about the kick Eliza Christie received?—I do not know.

Was it Robert Morris?—He is a forward man, as likely to be him as anybody.

How many men were in the hospital on the night in question?—I think it was two.

Was Robert Morris one of them?—He was.

Was Robert Morris sent for to give evidence on the inquest?—Yes, he was sent for; but I do not know whether he gave evidence or not.

Robert Morris being a busy, forward man, was it not likely, as he was in the hothouse, that he would know as much of the affair as anybody?—Yes.

Was Fidelia Walker in the hospital at the time of the kick; and was she sent for to give evidence?—She was in the hothouse and was sent for; but whether she came and gave her evidence I do not know.

Mr. *Arkinstall* said, I remember seeing the book-keeper, Mr. Dow, wrestling for a gun with Thomas Gordon, and I took it away from both; it was not loaded. I heard the book-keeper say that Gordon went into his room and took it away, but I do not know whether such was the fact; the people on the day of the inquest all came about the house where it was held after shell-blow for dinner, and they went to the field again on shell turn out.

Henry Gordon, House Servant at Cave Valley; sworn.

I came in with master about five o'clock in the evening of the affair in the hothouse, and was minding the horses in the stables. I was in the negro house when the noise was made; I did not come up, nor I did not see anything of the affair.

TUESDAY, 26 September 1837.

Dr. Samuel Tucker; sworn.

I attended an inquest at Cave Valley, by request of Doctor Anderson. I did not see the body; it was an adjourned inquest, and the body had been interred when I arrived; from what was related to me, the woman must have died while giving birth to a child, from mismanagement; the child lived some eight or ten days afterwards; I did not see the child, but I was told that it was healthy. The woman had been in the hospital some weeks before delivery, and went out; I did not see her for some weeks previously to delivery; she never complained to me. Some of the people in the hospital said that she had been kicked by a book-keeper a month or six weeks before delivery; others affirmed that she had not. Had she received a kick, as stated, premature labour would have immediately taken place. Several of the people who were in the hospital were examined, but they did not agree in their testimony. The doctor-woman, Caroline Hall, was examined, but I do not know what was the nature of her evidence; I do not know that any evidence was given as to the mark of a kick. The doctor-woman was removed in consequence of fault having been found with her by Mr. Arkinstall for not attending properly to her duties; she never complained to me about the effects of any blow in her stomach; she is now in the field in the great gang, and had been a doctor-woman for several years.

I have seen the treadmill at St. Ann's Bay, and concur in the opinion expressed by my brother, that no pregnant women ought to be worked on it.

In conclusion, I beg to assure the Court, that in no instance whatever have I refused to attend

attend to free children who have been brought to me. I have always been ready to examine them and give them whatever medicines I thought requisite, and I have frequently made up the medicines myself.

I think, from my knowledge as a medical gentleman, that the population of this district must be increasing.

MONDAY, 2d October 1837.

Letitia Campbell, Apprentice to Cave Valley; sworn.

I was in the hothouse the night that Eliza Christie got hurt; I was quite sick, lying down, and I heard somebody tumble down; I got up and called to Robert Morris to light the lamp, and see what was the matter with the woman, and call for the midwife. I did not say she was dying. The men's room was not locked. The woman did not say anything; she laid down quite silent on the ground; her feet were towards the door, and the head inwards. I don't know what was the cause of her tumbling down. When the people came in, lights were brought, and the busha and the midwife came in. The boy from the buckra's house carried the light in. It was Mr. Dow that was fighting to lock the door. I was in the corner, quite sick myself, and did not see what was going on. When the busha and the midwife came in, they moved the woman from the door-mouth, and I saw the midwife take the handkerchief and lash the stomach down, which was swelled; I also saw her tongue out above lips. I saw her after that; she remained some time in the hothouse, and went out and left me there. On the night that the affair took place there was a woman, named Jane Williams, who knew about it. I heard people talk that Mr. Dow kicked the woman, but I was so sick myself, that I could not take notice of anything that happened. I am quite certain that Robert Morris brought the light into the woman's room before the busha came. When busha came in, he said, "Don't make too much noise; nothing is the matter with the woman." I heard the people cry out before the busha came, and immediately after the woman tumbled, "Mr. Dow has kicked the woman." I heard Robert Morris say, when the busha was on his way coming in, "Lord, oh! poor girl, her tongue is out of her mouth; she is going to die." I did not go near to the woman myself, but sat up and saw the state she was in. I don't know that the busha was with Mr. Dow when he came to lock the door, but I heard when he was fighting with the woman to lock the door. I heard the woman beg the book-keeper not to lock the door; and he said he could not keep it open, that busha had ordered him to lock it. Robert Morris never called to me to hail the busha, nor did I hail him; it was Jane Williams that halloed out, crying that Mr. Dow had kicked Eliza Christie. She kept on giving this out, and the people came up.

Note.—This woman gave her evidence in a confused manner.

TUESDAY, 3d October 1837.

Thomas Gordon, Blacksmith on Cave Valley.

I remember being at the hothouse on the evening that Eliza Christie got hurt. I did not go inside. When I went the door of the hothouse was locked. When I saw the people running, and heard that Mr. Dow had killed the woman, I went up; the people were inside the yard, but I did not know how it was opened. The morning after, I saw that it was broken open. The outside door of the hothouse has a padlock on it, and each of the other doors inside (say of the apartments of the men and women), had also a padlock, and not a stocklock, on it. The outside gate had a stocklock on it. After the uproar, I saw the bookkeeper, Mr. Dow, with a gun in his hand. He had the key in his possession previously to this, which he gave to the busha, who desired him to go to his room and make himself easy. It was after this that he came out of his room with the gun in his hand; he came down with it, and the people all called out, "There is Mr. Dow with a gun in his hand." I then went and took it away from him.

On a question from the Court, whether Mr. Dow was then sober? witness replied, "I can't say whether he was rightly sober; but sometimes in the evening he always has a little grog." When I went to take the gun from him he struggled to keep it. I don't know whether it was loaded. After taking it from him, he went back to his room and began feeling about, as if looking for something; and I then carried the gun to the busha's house. Busha went at that time in a room getting some medicine. Mr. Dow followed me, and struggled again to get possession of the gun. I said I would not give it to him, but busha. In trying to get possession of the gun he fell down. Busha came out and said, "Give me the gun." I did so, and he put it away. After this I heard Mr. Campbell say, "What are these negroes doing here? They had better go away, for I have seen in Saint James's better negroes than them shot in martial law;" but I did not hear him say anything to Mr. Dow about shooting them. When everything was done I went into the hothouse room, and heard the busha desire the hothouse to be cleared, and nobody left there but the doctor-woman and midwife, so that air may get in. I did not go very near to the woman myself, and I did not hear anything particular said of the cause of her illness. I saw her after she came from the hothouse; she was sitting down near the trashhouse, and appeared as women generally do when heavily advanced in pregnancy. I was not called to give evidence at the inquest, but I believe that John Hogg was. I do not remember particularly who were called. I was near the house when the inquest was held;

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it was not over when the people drew off work in the evening. I did not see any of the people go about the house during the day. I did not remain at the house where I was working at shell-blow. I did not see Mr. Arkinstall come out to go to the field; and I think, if he had, that I must have seen him. Mr. Arkinstall came out in the evening into the passage to give orders to the people as usual, and I do not think that the inquest was over at that time. I do not remember seeing the doctor on the day of the inquest; but he might have been there without my seeing him.

(See Enclosure for copy of coroner's inquest.)

WEDNESDAY, 4th October 1837.

Mr. *George Halsall*, Overseer on Aboukir; sworn.

I remember being at an inquest on a female at Cave Valley; the body was so offensive that I did not examine it particularly. I was there on both days, but I am not certain whether it was the first or second day that I saw the body. Mr. Rose, the coroner, was there the first day; I am certain of that; he was there also the second day. The jury could not go through their business the first day, having met late, and it was adjourned until the next day, when the same jury met between nine and ten o'clock, and closed proceedings about noon; it was pretty early, as I sat the same day on another inquest, to which I was summoned on my way home. Evidence was before the jury that the deceased had cohabited with the book-keeper, Mr. Dow, and that, in a dispute between them, he had kicked her. Such is the impression on my mind now; but I wish to be understood as speaking doubtfully. This evidence was given by a negro woman, who spoke of it passionately; but I am not certain as to whether she had spoken of it as within her own knowledge. I think that the inquest was adjourned in consequence of the number of witnesses to be examined, who might have exceeded half a dozen, but not more than ten. I do not recollect whether any of the people who were in the hospital at the time, with the exception of the doctor-woman, were examined. There was not anything like a numerous assemblage of negroes around the overseer's house during the holding of the inquest. It appeared to me that the investigation was full, and that there was no appearance of any of the witnesses having been kept back. I remember that one of the relatives of the deceased gave evidence, but whether she was the person who I have said spoke passionately or not I cannot tell. She attributed the death of the deceased to the kick. The kick received by the deceased was not denied. The circumstance of the kick occupied much of the attention of the jurors, and made a serious impression on my own mind. Doctor Tucker was in attendance, but whether on both days or one, and which of the days, I cannot say. When a witness was dismissed, the question was asked, "Is there any other evidence?" This is the usual rule, and I have no recollection of its being departed from. I should think it probable that this question was put to Arkinstall. The verdict was unanimous, and the jury principally guided in their decision by the evidence of Doctor Tucker. Mr. Arkinstall was backwards and forwards during the investigation, and I have no recollection of his being ordered by the coroner to withdraw. I took down the evidence decidedly on the first day, and my impression is that I carried it through the second day. I am almost confident that I did so.

Jamaica, ss. St. Ann's.

COPY OF EVIDENCE!

Taken on an Inquest held on the Body of an Apprentice, named *Eliza Christie*, at *Cave Valley*, on the 26th and 27th November 1835.

Eleanor Fisher, being duly sworn, deposes that on Sunday last, while she was getting the overseer's dinner, she was sent for, as she acts as midwife, to *Eliza Christie*, who was in travail; could not go immediately, but went soon afterwards; found that the child was born, and that her aid did not appear to be requisite. Witness afterwards saw *Lucinda* gathering herbs for the woman (deceased), as she said that the after-birth had not come away. Witness then went to assist, but was too late, as the after-birth did not come away. The mother of the deceased told deponent that the pains of labour came on on Saturday night; and on deponent's asking her, "Why she had not at once sent for her?" she replied that "it was raining;" to which witness replied, "Was I sugar or salt, I would have gone if I had been called." Witness then asked *Margaret Christie*, sister to the deceased, why she had not called her? Her reply was, that "her mother had kept everything to herself." Deponent applied such remedies as appeared to be necessary, but in vain. Deceased died in the presence of deponent. The child, a male, is still living.

her
(signed) *Eleanor* x *Fisher*. (L.S.)
mark.

Caroline Hall, being duly sworn, deposes that she is doctress, or hospital-attendant, and heard the midwife, on leaving the house of the deceased, say that *Eliza Christie* was dead. Deponent expressed her surprise, the child having been born some hours; went to the house

house of the deceased, and found her body quite cold. Deceased, about a month previously to her lying-in, applied to the overseer for time to procure necessaries (meaning to be excused from work), which was granted. Deponent saw the child, who was quite hearty; went with the book-keeper, Mr. Campbell, to see the deceased.

her
(signed) *Caroline x Hall.* (L.S.)
mark.

Margaret Christie, being duly sworn, deposes, that she is sister to the deceased. About two months since, she was called to see the deceased in the hospital; went, but could not obtain immediate access, the outer-gate being locked: was again called, hearing that her sister was not likely to live; applied to the overseer for the key of the gate, but was refused. Heard people in the hospital cry out that her sister had been kicked by Mr. Dow; this occurred at night; that deceased entered the hospital on Friday, and left it (at her own request) on the Sunday following. Deceased went home; being pregnant, was not required to do any work until she lay in. That Mr. Dow had given her (deponent) an order on Mr. Joseph Isaacs for 3*l.*, as a compromise for a kick, which she heard that her sister had received from him; deponent had previously applied to the special justice (Mr. Dillon) to investigate the assault; that he gave her a letter to the overseer, which she delivered. On the Friday previous to the deceased lying-in, deponent gave her the order, which she (the deceased) took to Mr. Isaacs, at Castleton. On Sunday, deponent's mother sent for her, saying that her sister (the deceased) was in labour; the infant was born in the presence of deponent; deceased fainted, but soon recovered. The midwife did come immediately, but on coming, asked deponent's mother "Why she had not been summoned earlier?" to which she replied, "That she did not think the case so urgent, that the midwife did her utmost, but could not succeed; and the after-birth did not come away.

his
(signed) *Margaret + Christie,* (L.S.)
mark.

Peggy Christie, being duly sworn, deposes, that she is the mother of the deceased; she fully corroborates the evidence of the preceding witness in every particular. And further states, that on the Friday previous to the deceased lying-in, she (the deceased) did of her own accord take and present to Mr. Isaacs, at Castleton, an order given to her by Mr. Dow, for goods to the amount of 3*l.*, as a compromise for the assault, which Mr. Dow had committed on the person of the deceased.

his
(signed) *Peggy + Christie,* (L.S.)
mark.

John Hogg, being duly sworn, deposes, that about three weeks prior to the lying-in of the deceased, he was alarmed in the night, by an outcry that Eliza Christie was dead. Deponent went to the hospital with the overseer, who gave her spirits of hartshorn, and she recovered; on the following morning she left the hospital. On the Thursday previous to her death, deponent saw the deceased on the road to Cave River, and she did not appear to have any ailment. When deponent went to the hospital with the overseer, he asked what was the matter with Eliza Christie; and was told that she had been kicked by Mr. Dow. Deponent saw the deceased on Friday evening last, on her return from Castleton.

his
(signed) *John + Hogg,* (L.S.)
mark.

Adam Arkinstall (overseer of Cave Valley), being duly sworn, deposes, that about the 21st of October he visited the hospital as usual at night, to see the door locked; some of the inmates (the deceased and others), refusing to be confined. The book-keeper, Mr. Dow (whose duty it was to lock the hospital at night), did push some one in the crowd, as did the constable, but who were so pushed, deponent could not discriminate, it being about dusk. Three days subsequently, the deceased came to deponent, stating that she was within a month of her confinement, and applied for that time to prepare for her delivery, which leave was granted. At that time, deceased did not appear to have sustained any injury; and deponent did not see her again until after her death, nor was he made aware of her lying-in until then.

(signed) *Adam Arkinstall.*

Joseph Isaacs, being duly sworn, deposeth, that on Friday the 20th instant, Eliza Christie, an apprentice to Cave Valley, presented to him at Castleton, an order drawn by Mr. Dow, in her favour, for merchandize to the amount of 3*l.*; that at that time she appeared far advanced in pregnancy; was cheerful and laughing.

(signed) *Joseph Isaacs,* (L.S.)

Samuel Tucker, M.D., being duly sworn, deposes, that he is medical practitioner for Cave Valley, but was not present at the delivery of Eliza Christie; thinks it probable that she died (as often occurs) from internal hemorrhage.

In reply to the question, "What would be the probable effects of a woman, far advanced

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in pregnancy, receiving a blow or kick in the belly? states, that the probable effects would be premature child-birth, and the infant would be materially injured.

(signed) *Samuel Tucker, M.D.*

The foregoing evidence was taken at Cave Valley on the 26th, and (by adjournment) the 27th of November 1835, before me,

(signed) *S. W. Rose, (L.S.)*
Coroner of St. Ann's.

The following communications relative to the inquest held at Cave Valley, on the body of Eliza Christie, were forwarded to the Commissioners at Falmouth from St. Ann's Bay, by S. W. Rose, Esq., coroner of the parish of St. Ann's, to whom the evidence taken on that case was submitted, at the time of the sitting of the Commission at St. Ann's Bay.

Sir,

Farm, St. Ann's, October 14, 1837.

Conformably to my promise, I transmit copies of letters respecting the inquest at Cave Valley, on the 26th and 27th of November 1835, which will show the cause of its not being sooner held. Having carefully revised the depositions which I took on that occasion, I must request that you will again refer to those of Margaret Christie (sister of the deceased), of Peggy Christie (mother of the deceased), and of John Hogg; the first of whom states, that on the Friday previous to the deceased lying-in, deponent gave her the order which she (the deceased) took to Mr. Isaacs at Castleton; the second, that on the Friday previous to the deceased lying-in, she (the deceased) did, of her own accord, take and present to Mr. Isaacs, at Castleton, an order given her by Mr. Dow for 3 *l.*; and the third, that on Thursday previous to her death he saw the deceased on the road to Cave River, who did not appear to have any ailment; and further, that he saw the deceased on Friday evening last on her return from Castleton, which fully corroborates the evidence of Mr. Isaacs, and proves that the deceased had two days before her death gone to Castleton, a distance of more than two miles, upon a steep hill. As to the discrepancy between his deposition which I took, and that taken by you (with a perusal of which you politely favoured me), I think that you, and any other impartial judge, will agree with me in opinion that more credit ought to be given to a deposition relative to any case made on the sixth day after it occurred, than the one after a lapse of nearly two years. The only cause, therefore, to which I can in common charity attribute the above-mentioned discrepancy, is the memory of Mr. Isaacs having failed him.

George Gordon, Esq., &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) *S. W. Rose, Coroner.*

Sir,

Cave Valley, Nov. 22, 1835.

A woman has died suddenly in child-bed; your attendance is, therefore, required to hold an inquest as soon as possible on the body.

S. W. Rose, Esq.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Adam Arkinstall.*

Sir,

St. Ann's Bay, Nov. 23, 1835.

In reply to your letter of yesterday, I am to inform you that a woman's dying in child-birth is not a subject for an inquest, unless that had been caused by an accident or act of violence, neither of which have you stated to have been the case.

Mr. Arkinstall.

I remain, &c.
(signed) *S. W. Rose.*

Sir,

Cave Valley, Nov. 24, 1835.

Your favour I have duly received, and beg leave to observe, that the Negroes are quite dissatisfied, and request that you will come as soon as possible to view the body. The body has been seen by the following gentlemen: viz., Thomas Crosdaile, Joseph Isaacs, Elias Borough, R. W. Linton, and Hyman Morris.

S. W. Rose, Esq.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Adam Arkinstall.*

Sir,

Farm, Nov. 25, 1835.

I have received your letter of yesterday's date, and I repeat (as I stated, in reply to your letter of the 22d instant), that a woman's dying in child-birth is not a subject for an inquest, unless there were grounds for suspecting that the pains of labour were brought on by some accident or act of violence, of neither of which you make the slightest mention, nor have you made any such representation in your letter by the bearer. As you state, however, that the "Negroes on the estate are quite dissatisfied," (on what account you have left me to guess), I think it probable that there may be grounds for inquiry, and I am surprised that you did not immediately, on hearing from me, send for the nearest magistrate to officiate, in order to prevent a further loss of time. As that, however, has not been done, I shall use my best endeavour to be at Cave Valley to-morrow forenoon, and I hope that you will lose no time in sending for a medical man, whose attendance is indispensably necessary.

Mr. Arkinstall.

I am, &c.
(signed) *S. W. Rose.*

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My dear Anderson,

St. Ann's Bay, Nov. 23, 1835.

Having on my way from Mount Pleasant received a letter from Mr. Arkinstall, stating that a woman belonging to Cave Valley had died in child-birth, and requiring my attendance to hold an inquest, I have written to him, that, according to his statement of the case, it was not a fit subject for one. Were I hold to inquests, in such cases, I should justly be accused of imposing on the public.

John Anderson, Esq., Wilton.

In haste, I remain, &c.

(signed) S. W. Rose.

Enclosure 21, in No. 50.

Encl. 21, in No. 50.

Susan White's Case, of Dunbarton.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

Taken at *Brown's Town*, in *St. Ann's Parish*, in the case of an Apprenticed Labourer to Dunbarton Estate, named *Susan White*.

SATURDAY, 23 September 1837.

Susan White, Apprentice to Dunbarton; sworn.

I RECOLLECT being sent to the workhouse; I was chained to Amelia Lawrence; I was five months advanced in pregnancy when I was sent to the workhouse, and mischanced two months after I came out. [Witness here detailed the treatment she received in the workhouse, for which, see page 33 of evidence relating to the narrative.] I went out of the workhouse on a Sunday, and returned home; I had a great pain in my hip, and it took me Monday or Tuesday before I could reach home. I could not walk fast in consequence of the injury I received in my hip, and elsewhere, in the workhouse. When I got home my face was all swelled, and I complained to Mr. Mallett, the busha, that I was sick, but he ordered me out to work; next day I went to the workhouse; Dr. Edward Tucker attends Dunbarton. I stopped in the hothouse two or three days, and they turned me out. My jaw still continued to hurt me, and I didn't know what to do with it; at last I went to the doctor; I did not see him at his house, but met him on my way back; he gave me a note to busha, who allowed me to go to the hothouse. It was two weeks before Christmas when I went out of the workhouse; I was in the hothouse when I was seized with pains, and I mischanced there in the month of February. After that my jaw got very bad indeed. Some of the people said to me, "Your face is burning." In spite of this I was turned out to work. As the jaw got worse and worse I complained to Dr. Tucker, who said he would speak to busha; he did so, and I was sent to the hospital, where my jaw worked out, until the doctor was forced to cut the part away that was hanging loose. The pains in my jaw only commenced after I came out of the workhouse; I never had any pains there before; I never took any calomel to affect my jaw; nothing ever troubled it until I came out of the workhouse; I have never been well from that time until last month. [Witness then went into a further detail of the discipline of the workhouse, and related sundry instances of the libidinous dispositions of the drivers and boatswains, for which, see continuation of her evidence, in page 33 of the testimony taken in relation to the narrative of James Williams.] I shall now state why I was sent to the workhouse; the first time I was in the hospital, and the negroes in the field had done a bad day's work, Mr. Turner, the master, was there, and told them that sooner than take them to the magistrate, if they would give him one day in payment he would be satisfied, as that would be better than losing five days, which the magistrate would sentence them to. On the day that they worked (the day for the bad work), I came out of the hospital, and the overseer ordered me to go and work with them; I told him that I had nothing to do with it, as I was not with the people when they did the bad work. I therefore refused to go, and went to my ground. I told busha that I had just come out of the hothouse, and as the day was mine, I must go to my ground to get victuals for my children; that I had not made any agreement with the rest to pay back any day; I have had seven children; three of them are now alive. After my mischance I went so soon into the field that I took a cold, and was obliged to take a great quantity of physic; the driver then put me to cut chop-chops, and I told him that that was the work I ought to have been put to at first, as I was sick so long. I had a hen which got into the cane piece; I sent my little son to look after it, and as he did not return soon, I went to look for him; a boy, by the name of Henry James, ran and told him that I was coming to look for him, which so alarmed him that he jumped over a high wall, and frightened me a great deal. I found fault with Henry James for alarming my child; and as I spoke to him rather loud, the lad's parents got vexed and asked me what right I had to be there from my house. We got speaking together, and busha sent down to ask what the noise was about. Henry James's uncle, who was the boatswain, said that it was me making it, and the overseer sent to desire him to bring me up. On going up I spoke to the busha, and he ordered me into the dungeon. I asked the boatswain, before putting me into the dungeon, to allow me to go to my house and lock my door, as it was open, and he consented; but I had scarce got there when the book-keeper and two constables came up, and had me sent to the dungeon and locked up. I remained there till next morning (Saturday) when I was carried before Mr. Rawlinson at Brown's Town, who tried me, and sent me to the workhouse for 10 days, to be placed on the treadmill twice a day.

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Question at instance of Mr. *Mallet*, the Overseer.—When the noise was making in the yard, and the boy was sent to desire you to come to me, did you not refuse?—The boy never came to me, but went to the boatswain, and said I was to go up; I then said “Hi! how can that be, when I have not done anything?” I, however, was going along, and on my way the boy returned, and said, that busha desired me to be brought up by two negro men, if I wouldn’t come; I objected to go at first.

When you went to the overseer’s house, did he desire you to be put in the dungeon?—Overseer said I must be locked up.

Mr. *Mallet*, in explanation, said, that he was not aware that the witness had been out of the hospital; he desired the constable to put her back, and she refused to go; he then ordered her to be locked up in the hospital, and be taken to Brown’s Town on the following day. It was usual to lock up the hospital at night, except when any person was there who was seriously ill.

On a question by Mr. Mallett, through the Court, *Susan White* said, “I don’t remember that Dr. Tucker saw me when I first was sent to light work.” In reply to another question, she said, “I did not tell either Mr. Rawlinson or the overseer that I was with child when I was sent to the workhouse. The midwife, Elizabeth Redwar, Mrs. Gale, Eleanor Redwar, Jane Lynch, and Patience Lawrence, were all aware of the mischance which I had.”

Mr. *John More*, Book-keeper on Dunbarton; sworn.

On the night before the delivery of *Susan White*, Dr. Tucker came to the property and prescribed 10 grains of Dover’s powders for her; I told her, “you have taken a great quantity of strong medicine, and I suspect that you are with child;” in fact, I did not like to give her so much physic. She said, that she was not pregnant, but believed that she was getting dropsical. If the doctor had known that she was pregnant, I don’t think that he would have given her such strong medicine; her legs and thighs were much swollen. I locked the hothouse, and the next morning the doctor-woman came and said to me, “What do you think? *Susan White* has a child! Everybody, even her own brother, was surprised at it.” The overseer ordered rice, flour, sugar, and every other necessary for her; and the doctor saw her two or three days afterwards and administered medicine. At the time that the negroes entered into the compromise, the magistrate had sentenced them to pay back three days, but Mr. Turner said if they would give him back one day he would be satisfied. *Susan White* was positively not then in the hospital; she was planting stock-canes with the pregnant women; no occurrence of the same nature ever took place a second time. All the people were not brought up before the special magistrate, only some of them. The head driver and the second driver were sent for, and examined; and the gang was sentenced to the loss by Mr. Rawlinson to pay back three days; the whole gang was not present at the trial. On one Saturday morning the people were at work, five were absent; *Susan White* was one of them, and came about seven o’clock; she then began to abuse the driver; she ask’d what right he had to order her out to work; that she was in the hospital, and would not work for anybody; I told her, “You may go away, I don’t care whether you work or not;” I told her so because I did not wish to hear any of her abuse; she had been at work on the Friday; she is in general a very turbulent woman, one of the most turbulent on the property. When the overseer was in town, the second driver said that he could not get any work from her, but that instead of tying canes she was abusing everybody. I went to the field, and told her brother, who was the head driver; he said that he did not know what to do with her; this was after her return from the workhouse when she had been injured by the fall; that same week she complained much of her jaw to me, and Doctor Tucker ordered her to wash it with alum and water; I don’t know whether he had performed any operation on it. When persons on the property came to the overseer with complaints of toothache, he generally gave them liberty to go to Orange Valley and get the teeth drawn by a black man there. *Susan White* was in and out of the hospital frequently.

In reply to a question from Mr. Mallett, proposed through the Court, Mr. More said, that at the time of the quarrel, last year, July, he did not hear the overseer give any orders, but he understood that the order was to lock up *Susan White* in the hospital; he was told so by the boatswain, who is third constable. This was about dusk, and it was exactly nine o’clock when she was put in the dungeon. During the interval she made a great contention with the constable. Witness said, “What are you going on in this manner for?” At this time I found her standing against the door, setting the constable apparently at defiance; she said to me, “As you have come for me, I will go.”

M. *Mallett*, Overseer of Dunbarton; sworn.

When *Susan White* returned from the workhouse, I did not see anything materially the matter with her. I never heard of her having fallen off the mill until a long while after. When she returned home she said that she was sick; I told her you may either go to work or to the hothouse; you have your choice; it was a long while before she complained of her jaw; it was more than a month, considerably more. At the commencement of the complaint in the jaw, Dr. Tucker said he thought that the disease proceeded from the immense quantity of calomel she had taken; I was not aware of her being in a state of pregnancy; I knew nothing of it until after I heard that she had been delivered; her health before she went to the workhouse was good, but she was exceedingly fond of going to the
hothouse;

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hothouse; she would take any quantity of medicine provided she was allowed to go to the hothouse.

Mr. *More* recalled.—I am aware that Susan White took calomel every time that the doctor prescribed it. At the time that she first complained of her jaw, she told me that she had been at a dance, and that Archibald Campbell's wife was jealous of, and had been quarrelling with her; perhaps the Court would inquire of her where she was that night; she might probably have received the injury that night in her jaw. I do not know that she was dancing, but I am aware of the quarrel. I never heard Susan White say that her jaw had been broken by the constable, William Redwar.

The Rev. *B. B. Dexter*, Baptist Minister; sworn.

The statement respecting Susan White's first commitment was written by me, and sent to his Excellency the Governor, it was taken from her own mouth with one exception, and that relates to her pregnancy; she did not understand the question that I put to her on the subject. When she got out of the room in which I wrote her statement, she asked a person standing by what it was that minister said respecting the pregnancy. When she was told, the answer she returned, as I was informed, was, that she was seven months gone, and that she was delivered of a child the day she returned from the workhouse. Whether she made this statement herself, or whether a mistake was made in the delivery of it to me, I don't know. Patience White mentioned to me, that on the night of the controversy her husband had ordered Susan White to go to the hospital, and that she refused; then it was that she was ordered into the dungeon; that the overseer had sent for her to know what business she had where she was quarrelling, when he thought that she was in the hothouse; that she refused to go to Mr. Mallett, till he sent down to say that if Lynch did not bring her up he would have him, Lynch, put into the dungeon, and taken to Brown's Town. On Lynch replying that he could not bring her up, he was ordered to get assistance, and she then went quietly up; that Mr. Mallett was going to have her locked up in the hospital, but as she refused to go, and was trying to get away, she was then sent to the dungeon. The next morning she was taken before Mr. Rawlinson, who, on hearing the evidence, sentenced her to 10 days on the treadmill and hard labour. This case is attested by Patience White and Alexander Lynch, the constable.

Mr. *Adam Gunn*, Overseer of Tobolski; sworn.

I was formerly the overseer of Dunbarton estate; I was overseer there for 12 years, and left in 1831. I knew Susan White; I considered that she had a good character at that time, in consequence of having come from a very decent family. I took her into the house, but her temper was such that I was under the necessity to turn her out of it; she was then sent to the field; she was the principal instigator of all quarrels. Her father and mother were very good people; indeed her father was head-ranger, and from what I knew of him and the mother I was induced to take Susan White into the house. I could not keep her in the house from her conduct and bad disposition. She was not punished much; I found that neither kindness nor harshness were available in subduing her temper.

SATURDAY, 30 September 1837.

Adolphus Redwar, Constable on Dunbarton; sworn.

I remember when the people were doing bad work on the property; Master William Turner came to the property, and said that he would agree to take a day from them instead of taking them to the magistrate. Susan White said she had no right to pay the day, as she was in the hothouse and had not missed any day.

William Redwar, Apprentice to Dunbarton; sworn.

I remember the day that insufficient was done; Susan White was in the field; she was in the field, and had been in the hothouse before that, but had been at work for two days after being turned out of the hospital. The work complained of occupied the gang about a week, and she was desired, with the rest, to pay back a whole day, which she refused; a complaint was afterwards made to the magistrate against the whole gang, and he sentenced them to pay back the time lost, which was estimated by good judges to be three days. Only one day was paid, and the people were never called upon to pay any more.

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(No. 209.)

—No. 51.—

No. 51.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K. C. B.

Sir,

Downing-street, 1 February 1838.

I HAVE received your despatch, No. 210, of the 13th November, transmitting minutes of proceedings under a commission which you had appointed to investigate, in pursuance of my instructions, the complaints stated in "A Narrative of Events, since the 1st of August 1834, by James Williams, an Apprenticed Labourer in Jamaica." I have also received your despatch, No. 213, of the same date, transmitting copies of the minutes of evidence taken by your desire before the same commissioners, on certain additional complaints of severity or cruelty preferred against Mr. Rawlinson, late special magistrate at Brown's Town, St. Ann's.

The voluminous nature of the evidence taken before the commissioners, and which of course required to be minutely considered, prevented my immediately replying to your despatches on this painful subject, and even now I am unable by the present mail to enter at length into many of the points which are raised by this inquiry, or to inform you of the precise nature of the remedy which must be applied to abuses such as those which have been brought to light by the result of this investigation. Having, however, given an attentive consideration to the report of the proceedings in these cases, I cannot delay to convey to you my entire approval of your immediate suspension of Mr. Rawlinson. Although the commissioners state that he will probably forward some explanations direct to yourself on such parts of his official conduct as he may deem most to require them, I find that he had the opportunity of offering to the commissioners any statements or evidence in his own justification, but that he declined to do so. His conduct must therefore be judged by the result of the evidence as it was taken; and as I see no ground whatever to justify any reasonable doubts of the general accuracy of the conclusion at which the commissioners arrived, or, consequently, of the unfitness of Mr. Rawlinson for the office which he has unfortunately so long held. I have no hesitation in confirming his suspension, and directing the revocation of his commission. It is a matter of deep regret that his misconduct was not sooner brought under the notice of the executive government, for I am confident that if either the Marquis of Sligo or yourself had possessed any information of the gross mal-administration of the law of which Mr. Rawlinson appears to have been guilty, an inquiry would immediately have been instituted, and much of the suffering and oppression which has been inflicted through his agency, or with his concurrence, would thus have been prevented. You state, indeed, in your despatch, No. 210, that Mr. Rawlinson's conduct to James Williams had been previously reported to this office by Lord Sligo, but, after the most diligent search, I have been unable to trace any such report among the records of the office. It is true, indeed, that in March 1836, Lord Sligo brought to my notice an adjudication by Mr. Rawlinson, in the case of James Rattray, of Owen's, upon which Lord Sligo very properly thought it his duty to animadvert as illegal and open to just censure; but in reporting that case to me, your predecessor expressed his conviction that Mr. Rawlinson's conduct on that occasion had evidently arisen from a mistake, and, owing to the high opinion which he expressed of Mr. Rawlinson, I was induced, at his Lordship's suggestion, to abstain from any further interference in the matter. The following are the terms in which Lord Sligo then expressed himself to me with reference to Mr. Rawlinson: "There cannot be a more honest or upright gentleman than Mr. Rawlinson, one more attentive to his duties, or to appearance possessed of more common sound good sense."

The despatch from which these words are extracted contains the only specific allusion to Mr. Rawlinson's conduct which I have been able to trace in the correspondence with your predecessor or yourself. The result of the present inquiry affords a lamentable proof that, even with the vigilance which I am well aware has been invariably exercised both by Lord Sligo and yourself, practices unwarranted by law, and wholly opposed to the letter and spirit of the instructions under which the special magistrates act, have been carried on unknown to the local government, and consequently, for a length of time, without redress.

Under

Under the conviction that, to a certain extent, this evil was unavoidable, I have, not only in the case of Williams, but invariably, transmitted to the local government for investigation, every charge which has been placed in my hands, from whatever quarter, of mal-administration of the law; and I confess I deeply regret that the circumstances which have led to the present inquiry, instead of having been brought under the notice of Her Majesty's Government for the first time in a pamphlet printed and circulated in this country, were not fully stated to you in Jamaica when they first came to the knowledge of the parties, through whom they have at last happily transpired. Had this course been adopted, the dismissal of Mr. Rawlinson would have taken place at a much earlier period, and the authentic statement of the written disclosures contained in the evidence now before me would long since have supplied a motive, and laid a foundation for a more complete remedy than it has yet been in the power of the Government to provide against the recurrence of such enormous abuses.

You are already aware that, in consequence of the statements which were made in the course of last year, of the treatment of prisoners in houses of correction in Jamaica, Her Majesty's Government have instituted a minute inquiry into the whole system and practice pervading places of confinement in the West Indies. The result of that inquiry will, I hope, be in my possession in the course of the present spring; but I find abundant evidence in the papers before me to justify the adoption of the most effectual means of placing those establishments under a more efficient control. I am happy to know that your influence and exertions have already succeeded in some degree in ameliorating the system of prison discipline, and I confidently rely on your unremitting exertions to effect this indispensable object; but I shall have occasion to address you in a separate despatch on this subject.

I would here gladly close for the present my observations with reference to the inquiries of the commissioners in the cases before me, but I do not feel myself at liberty to do so. I abstain, indeed, from any particular notice of those parts of the evidence which affect magistrates who had died or been removed from their office previously to the investigation. I cannot, however, avoid the conclusion that, if the facts stated against Captain Dillon in the course of this evidence are not capable of being disproved, that gentleman ought not to be allowed to retain his commission; although the extent to which he is implicated by the inquiry is far less than in Mr. Rawlinson's case, evidence has been received which, if true, renders his continuance in office impossible; at the same time, it does not appear that Captain Dillon had notice of the charges affecting his conduct, or any opportunity of defending himself against them. You will, therefore, communicate to him without delay, if he has not yet received it, so much of the evidence as applies to him; and unless you are satisfied, on receiving his statement, that he has completely exculpated himself from the charge of undue severity or neglect of his duty, you will immediately revoke his commission. In the meanwhile I think it will be your duty to suspend him from the exercise of his functions as a special magistrate.

I fully approve of the course which you have adopted in order to bring to justice the parties charged with the various offences disclosed by the investigation. I earnestly hope that the result will be such as to prove, in all cases where the guilt of the parties shall be established, that such offences cannot be committed without severe and merited punishment.

I cannot conclude this despatch without requesting you to convey to Messrs. Daughtrey and Gordon my acknowledgments for the valuable service rendered by them in execution of the commission which you had intrusted to them.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Glenelg.*

—No. 52.—

(No. 221.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K. C. B.

Sir,

Downing-street, 13 February 1838.

No. 52.

In my despatch of the 1st instant, commenting on the result of the inquiries into the complaints of James Williams and other apprenticed negroes in Jamaica, I apprised you that it was my intention to address to you a separate despatch on

JAMAICA.

the subject of the requisite measures for the immediate prevention of abuses of a flagrant character in the houses of correction.

I do not overlook the fact, that the evidence taken by the Commissioners of Inquiry in the recent investigation relates only to the parish of St. Ann's, nor am I unmindful of the assurance conveyed in your despatch of the 12th June last, that after a personal inspection of the greater part of the workhouses in Jamaica, you had found them, in most instances, well regulated and under a careful supervision, and that you did not anticipate difficulty in obtaining such modifications of the existing rules as might appear desirable. Your own opinion, however, of the great defects of the present prison system in Jamaica, as communicated in your despatch of the 13th October last, and the cruel and scandalous practices which are proved to have existed in the house of correction in the parish of St. Ann's, leave no room to doubt the necessity of a complete reform in the whole system of management applicable to those establishments.

For this purpose a power must be placed by law in the hands of the Executive Government over the regulations and officers of those places of confinement; I only abstain from at once proposing such a measure to Parliament, because the report which I shortly expect from Captain Pringle will comprise all the information which may enable Her Majesty's Government to adapt the remedy to the full extent of evil, and because I have not yet learned the issue of the endeavour which, in your despatch of the 13th October, you stated your intention to make in the then ensuing session to procure the appointment of county inspectors, armed with adequate powers, and independent of any authority other than your own.

It would be a great satisfaction to me to learn that a law of this nature were passed by the Colonial Legislature; but should this not be the case, there is no subject which, in my opinion, more imperatively demands the interference of the Imperial Legislature.

In the meantime no measures within the authority or influence of the Executive Government should be neglected. With this view, immediate steps should be taken for ensuring, as far as practicable, repeated and systematic inspection of prisons and workhouses by persons appointed by yourself and responsible to you for the execution of their duty.

The high character and tried merits of Mr. Daughtrey, one of the commissioners in the recent inquiry, seem to point him out as peculiarly qualified for such employment; and I would suggest that he should be specially commissioned, either alone or in conjunction with one or more fit persons, to visit at uncertain periods, and without notice, the various prisons and houses of correction in the island. The commission should be armed with all the power of examining witnesses and investigating complaints which may be required to render such inspection effectual; and it should be authorized, whenever practicable, to put an immediate stop to any abuse which may be discovered. Cases of cruelty and of improper punishment would by this means be brought at an early period under your notice; and it would be your duty, on being satisfied of the facts, to take measures for the redress of the injured parties, and the punishment of the offenders.

The most obvious remedy, however inadequate in some cases, of accomplishing the former object, would be the immediate release of any prisoner subjected to improper punishment, accompanied by an injunction to the special justice of the district, in the case of an apprenticed labourer, not again to commit the same individual for any offence to the workhouse, without a previous reference to yourself. The punishment of the offending parties may be attended with considerable difficulty, until more extensive powers are placed in the hands of the Executive; but I am of opinion that, in all cases cognizable by law, and in which the information is sufficient, in the judgment of the Attorney-general, to warrant a conviction, a prosecution should be instituted, regardless of any doubt as to the direct issue of the trial. The advantage to be derived from publicity ought not to be sacrificed to any apprehension of an improper acquittal.

What influence you may possess will, of course, also be exerted in procuring the removal of any of the officers where authority shall appear to have been abused. You will further have it in your power to instruct the special justices, in accordance with a suggestion which I have before made, not to commit apprentices to any place of confinement, the regulations or the practice of which shall appear, from the inspectors' reports, to expose them to cruelty and ill-treatment.

ill-treatment. I do not feel it necessary here to enumerate the various abuses which demand measures of this description. They are stated with sufficient precision on the face of the recent proceedings before Messrs. Gordon and Daughtrey; and I am confident that, to the utmost extent to which, with your present powers, you can apply a remedy, you will not fail to do so.

In suggesting the immediate appointment of a general system of inspection, you will, of course, not understand me as intending to lessen the obligation at present resting on the special magistrates generally to visit the places of imprisonment within their respective districts. No duty or responsibility now imposed on them will be removed by the appointment of general inspectors, but an important check will be placed on any neglect of duty or misconduct on their part. If any such delinquency be discovered, the inspector should be directed immediately to bring it under your notice. It may also be a fit subject for your consideration whether a power could not be conferred on the inspectors to investigate, under a commission from you, any complaints which may be preferred of mal-administration of the law in instances not connected with the workhouse system, especially with a view to guard against the abuse of the power of confinement in hothouses or dungeons on estates.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Glenelg.*

— No. 53.—

(No. 219.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith* to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Spanish Town, 21 November 1837.

No. 53.

IN reference to my letters transmitting the minutes of the Brown's Town commission on the case of James Williams and others, I beg leave to enclose a letter from Messrs. Daughtrey and Gordon, in explanation of a certain remark of theirs which they think was not borne out by the evidence, and which letter, at their request, I beg your Lordship to have the goodness to cause to be appended to the proceedings.

Letter of Messrs.
Gordon and
Daughtrey,
14 Nov. 1837.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Lionel Smith.*

Enclosure in No. 53.

LETTER from Messrs. *Daughtrey* and *Gordon*, Commissioners in the case of
James Williams.

Sir,

St. Elizabeth's, 14 Nov. 1837.

Encl. in No. 53.

As Commissioners of the St. Ann's Inquiry, having received the evidence with respect to the circumstances of sufferings to which apprentices James Williams and Adam Brown were subjected during their ten days' confinement in the Knapdale dungeon, we beg permission to withdraw the remark which intimates "that nature's relief was allowed to accumulate in the cell during nearly if not the whole period," deeming the balance of evidence against such conclusion.

A regard to candour and accuracy having suggested the propriety of this correction, we request it may not fail to be appended to that part of the proceedings to which it applies.

We have, &c.
(signed) *Geo. Gordon.*
Jno. Daughtrey.

(A true copy)

(signed) *S. R. Warren.*

— No. 54.—

(No. 223.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith* to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Spanish Town, 24 November 1837.

No. 54.

MR. SENIOR, whose name is mentioned in the Brown's Town commission of inquiry as the owner of the apprentice James Williams, requests me to forward

Affidavit,
10 Nov. 1837.
Mr. Senior's Letter,
Penshurst, Run-
away Bay,
14 Nov. 1837.

the accompanying affidavit for your Lordship's information; and I likewise transmit herewith Mr. Senior's letter to my secretary in forwarding the affidavit.

It may be as well to acquaint your Lordship that Mr. Senior's statement respecting the change in Adam Brown's class has not escaped my notice; the subject shall be inquired into.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Lionel Smith.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 54.

A. Brown's Affidavit; case of James Williams.

Encl. 1, in No. 54. Jamaica ss. St. Ann's.

PERSONALLY appeared before me, one of Her Majesty's justices of the peace for the aforesaid parish, Adam Brown, a prædial apprentice labourer belonging to Penshurst, who maketh oath and saith, that last Friday he was in the field at 12 o'clock, when the shell blew to draw off; Joseph Lawrence said, "All we sensible people must go to Brown's Town;" deponent asked what for; he said about the Friday; deponent then asked him what about the Friday; he said we must go and complain that massa did not give the full half Friday; deponent told him the way they were going on both white and black would find fault with them; Marian Lawrence said they must take him (deponent) to the constable, for him and massa had made bargain; they said Henry Brown and deponent must go to Brown's Town; deponent said he would not go, for he had no charge against his massa, and advised him (Henry Brown) not to go; deponent told them that if they kept on so he would tell massa; Wednesday (the 8th instant) all the gang, excepting Joseph Lawrence and Alexander Mills, attacked him in the negro houses, and William Mills licked him with a rope and his fist twice by order of his (deponent's) father, William Dalling, who was present and saw it well done; William Mills attempted to knock deponent down with a stick, but his (deponent's) mother ran and caught the stick; they (William Mills and Henry Price Cook) threw deponent down upon the ground, choked and beat him, and tore his clothes; when deponent raised up, he told them he knew what all this was for, because he would not join them in telling lies upon massa; that before time when he used to carry massa to court it was by their advice; deponent's father, William Dalling, and some of those who bought up their apprenticeship, used to advise him (deponent) to bother massa; deponent has every reason to believe that the beating he has received was in consequence of having said that if he went to Brown's Town court he would always speak the truth, and that he would always speak the truth when carried to Brown's Town court against his master.

(signed) *Adam Brown.*

Sworn before me, this 10th day of November 1837.

(signed) *Ewd. Tucker.*

Enclosure 2, in No. 54.

LETTER of Mr. Senior, late owner of *James Williams.*

Encl. 2, in No. 54.

Sir,

Penshurst, Runaway Bay, 14 Nov. 1837.

I WILL thank you to lay before the Governor the enclosed affidavit.

This Adam Brown was in the house till he was big enough to clean horses, and after cleaning them used to go for breadnut leaves or grass alternately with James Williams, and when I went out followed me as groom. He was the only servant who attended me all through the late martial law, and always went with me to town. When we went any distance, we generally put four horses to the carriage, and Adam Brown drove the leaders as postillion. He was remarkably civil and obedient, and I considered him much attached to us. On the 1st of August 1834 he joined James Williams in annoying us in every possible way, and he was repeatedly punished; at last he begged to be allowed to change his class, and go to the field, and an agreement was entered into and signed by Mr. Rawlinson, since which I have not had occasion to find fault with him. We always suspected that William Dalling was the instigator of the bad conduct of these boys, which Adam Brown now proves in his affidavit to have been the fact, and which would never have been ascertained had this quarrel not taken place. The evidence of Charles Trueman and Marianne Bell, taken before the Commissioners, is now corroborated by Adam Brown, and shows that the evidence of William Dalling, and those under his influence, is not worthy of belief, and fully bears me out in the statements I have made.

I think this affidavit will convince every unprejudiced person that there has been a combination to injure my character, which I never had a doubt I should be able to clear, if I was allowed that justice which every man has a right to, for "truth is mighty and will prevail."

I hope the affidavit will be transmitted to Lord Glenelg as early as possible, who, I am convinced, is desirous of hearing the truth only.

I have, &c.
(signed) *G. W. Senior.*

S. R. Warren, Esq.

— No. 55. —

(No. 210.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B.

Sir,

Downing-street, 1 February 1838.

No. 55.

I HAVE received your despatches, Nos. 219 and 223, of the 21st and 24th November last, the first enclosing a letter from Messrs. Daughtrey and Gordon, in explanation of a remark which they had made as to the revolting state in which the dungeon at Knapdale was allowed to remain during the period of James Williams's and Adam Brown's confinement in it; and the second, transmitting an affidavit of Adam Brown (forwarded to you in a letter from Mr. Senior), respecting the conduct of his fellow-apprentices in instigating him to bring charges against their master.

The representation of the commissioners, that they deem the balance of evidence to be against the conclusion which they had formed in regard to the state of the dungeon at Knapdale, is of much importance; for although, on examining the evidence which has been sent home, I have not been able to arrive at the same conclusion, I am satisfied that their impression, received on the spot, is of more value than any other.

Adam Brown's affidavit will, of course, be taken into consideration with the rest of the evidence, in any measures which the Attorney-general may adopt in this case. I approve of your intention to inquire into the change in Adam Brown's class, as stated by Mr. Senior. It may, perhaps, have been a change not in the registry, but only from domestic to prædial occupation during the remaining term of his apprenticeship.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

JAMAICA.

11.

MISCELLANEOUS.

— No. 56. —

(No. 134.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B., to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 56.

My Lord,

The King's House, 24 June 1837.

At the request of Mr. Special Justice Hewitt, I have the honour to transmit the enclosed original letter addressed by that gentleman to your Lordship.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Lionel Smith*.

Enclosure in No. 56.

Encl. in No. 56.

My Lord,

Buff Bay, St. George's, Jamaica, 20 June 1837.

On referring to the evidence of Mr. A. H. Beaumont given before the Select Committee on Negro Apprenticeship in the Colonies, on the 19th July 1836, I find that gentleman has declared in his replies to questions 4205 to 4211, pages 368 and 369, and to questions 4228 to 4231, page 370, that I have an interest in Cumberland estate, under my late father's will, conjointly with my brothers. I have to inform your Lordship, that I have no brothers, and that I did not inherit, nor have I the smallest interest in any property which my father possessed at the time of his death in the year 1831; and further, that the estate alluded to by Mr. Beaumont was thrown out of cultivation, and the negroes sold, some time prior to the year 1834, and the proceeds of the sale applied as directed by my father's will, but of which I received no part.

Fearing that Mr. Beaumont's assertions might operate to my disadvantage at the Colonial Office, I have been induced to trouble your Lordship with this explanation.

I have, &c.

The Rt. hon. Lord Glenelg,
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *William Hewitt*,
Special Justice for Jamaica.

No. 57. —

(No. 135.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B.

No. 57.

Sir,

Downing-street, 7 September 1837.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 24th June last, No. 134, enclosing a letter addressed to me by Mr. Special Justice Hewitt, on the subject of a statement made by Mr. A. H. Beaumont before the Select Committee on Negro Apprenticeship in the Colonies, on the 19th July 1836, to the effect that Mr. Hewitt was interested in certain property at Jamaica.

You will have the goodness to inform that gentleman that I have received his explanation, and am happy to find that the contradiction of Mr. Beaumont's statement respecting him is so complete.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

—No. 58.—

(No. 137.)

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B., to
Lord *Glenelg*, dated King's House, 16 July 1837.

No. 58.

My letter of the 12th June 1837 made allusion to a placard said to have been extensively circulated in this island by Joseph Sturge. As far as the placard goes, I ought not to be offended with it, because the excess in floggings of apprentices which it aims to expose were all anterior to my administration, and if intended, particularly by the observation at the bottom of it, to question the system of Lord Sligo, your Lordship, from a knowledge of that nobleman's indefatigable attention to the amelioration of the negroes' condition, will indignantly repel the foul slander.

It is the misfortune of enthusiasts and philanthropists, particularly in the anti-slavery cause, that they will not distinguish between the crimes of systems and the crimes of individuals. Slavery never yet existed without dreadful crimes, but the fault is with the governments which established it, and not with their subjects who were invited to partake of its lucrative advantages.

Hence I condemn the hostility with which Joseph Sturge entered the West Indian field against the planters. Charges of severity or cruelty, even in apprenticeship, may be very true, because they are the inseparable ingredients belonging to the criminal power of slavery, and we all know how difficult it is to get men to abandon power; but as well might Joseph Sturge impeach the characters of the present owners of the splendid edifices of Liverpool or Bristol, raised, I may say, by African blood, as indulge in bitter vengeance against the present owners of what was slave property in the West Indies.

Joseph Sturge was introduced to me by Sir George Grey, requesting I would afford every facility in my power to the object of his mission. But he was full a fortnight in the country before he called upon me; when he did, I invited him to dine with me. He declined.

It would be puerile in me to complain of the want of personal courtesy in Joseph Sturge, but I do complain of his want of confidence in me to put him in the way of the best information.

I should have felt obliged to Joseph Sturge if he had told me of any abuses he had discovered in our system towards the apprentices.

I have not been able to ascertain how many of the placards are in circulation; a pile of them was seen in Joseph Sturge's lodgings; and your Lordship will naturally ask, as they were got up and printed in Birmingham, for what possible purpose he could have brought them to this country.

Enclosure in No. 58.

NEGRO APPRENTICES.

At a public meeting of the Birmingham Anti-Slavery Society, held the 12th of September 1836, it was unanimously resolved, That a copy of the Reports of Corporal Punishments inflicted on the Apprenticed Negroes of Jamaica, by the Special Justices of that Colony, in the months of April, May and June last, furnished by themselves, be published and placarded on the walls of Birmingham.

Encl. in No. 58.

FLOGGING by Order of SPECIAL MAGISTRATES.

	1836:			TOTAL NUMBER.
	April.	May.	June.	
Alley, W. H.	-	37	-	37
Baines, T. J.	-	40	176	216
Baynes, E. D.	167	39	418	624
Bell, W. A.	40	110	32	182
Bourne, Stephen	10	20	39	69
Brownson, W. H.	-	-	25	25
Carnaby, William	50	40	35	125
Chamberlayne, R., jun.	20	-	-	20
Cocking, Ralph	78	-	117	195
Cooper, Richard S.	-	-	39	39
Daughtrey, John	45	-	12	57
Davies, Thomas	126	36	78	240
Dawson, J. K.	30	-	138	168
Dawson, H. W.	-	-	25	25
Dillon, T. A.	60	255	197	512
Dunne, Patrick	30	-	-	30
Ewart, David	-	-	-	-
Facey, Richard B.	-	55	-	55
Finlayson, Walter	20	-	50	70
Fishbourne, E. E.	120	260	265	645
Fyfe, Alexander Gordon	9	20	-	29
Gregg, G. D.	-	48	180	228
Gurley, John	30	-	30	60
Grant, J. W.	-	30	-	30
Gordon, George	4	39	-	63
Hamilton, Chemney	5	20	15	40
Harris, James	233	57	102	392
Hawkins, Charles	140	74	126	340
Higgins, G. O.	-	-	-	-
Hill, Richard	-	-	-	-
Hewitt, William	24	-	304	328
Hulme, J. R.	25	24	127	176
Jones, Thomas W.	35	44	130	209
Kelly, D. W.	25	-	20	45
Kent, Henry	-	20	-	20
Laidlaw, Henry	55	28	15	98
Lambert, R. S.	188	164	272	624
Lloyd, Samuel	21	142	382	545
Lyon, Edmund B.	89	-	-	89
Marlton, W. F.	77	30	20	127
M'Leod, A. N.	-	-	-	-
Moresby, Henry	359	690	472	1,521
Nolan, James	35	-	40	75
Odell, John	50	30	40	120
Oliver, T. M.	140	175	200	515
Palmer, A. L.	24	-	-	24
Pennell, R. C.	60	391	400	851
Philip, E. D.	80	20	110	210
Pryce, Samuel	-	125	227	352
Ramsey, William	-	-	-	-
Rawlinson, S.	219	25	250	494
Reynolds, John	-	-	-	-
Rennell, Robert	-	-	-	-
Sowley, W. H.	271	210	462	943
St. John, Richard	264	319	598	1,181
Thomas, J. R.	567	230	296	1,093
Thompson, R.	-	-	51	51
Waddington, H.	78	36	210	324
Walsh, H.	82	25	12	119
Welsh, Arthur	18	123	87	228
Willis, George	99	40	20	159
Woolfreys, John	-	-	-	-
	4,122	4,071	6,834	15,037

* * This does not include the secret flogging, the tortures on the treadmill, the robbery of the negro of his time, &c. &c., which there is a moral certainty exists to a fearful extent, though kept from public view.

— No. 59. —

(No. 162.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B., to
Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Spanish Town, 18 August 1837.

No. 59.

IN acknowledgment of your Lordship's letter, No. 115, dated 1st July 1837, I beg to inform your Lordship that I have called for reports on all valuations on the services of apprentices which had not been completed, by disagreement on the part of any of the magistrates, and they shall be transmitted as early as possible.

Vide Papers relative to the Abolition of Slavery, 1837, part 4, (1) p. 306.

Your Lordship may depend that those special magistrates who conscientiously discharge their duties, and are thereby involved in actions against them by the planters, will have my firm support in their difficulties, and will have the benefit of my strong recommendation to your Lordship to be reimbursed their unavoidable expenses. The object of my circular, No. 436, was to impress upon them they were not heedlessly to provoke such actions in confidence of public indemnity, and my warning was in strict conformity with your Lordship's sentiments on that head.

No. 638 went to define the objects of the special magistrates being also made general magistrates.

On one occasion no less than four special magistrates, tainted, I am sure, with a little parish strife, assembled in Manchester, and quashed the election of a vestryman.

I considered that these gentlemen's legitimate duties were sufficiently onerous and invidious, without their interference in parish politics, which had no bearing whatever on their obligations towards the apprenticed population.

It has lately been decided by the chief justice in court that special magistrates cannot in their commitments define or limit the nature of apprentices' punishments sentenced to imprisonment in the gaols or houses of correction, because the law has fixed those punishments and allowed nothing to the discretion of the magistrates, and in the same manner the law has regulated food and raiment.

It would be vain, therefore, to expect any aid from the special magistrates in ameliorating our prison system; but it is a subject to which I have applied constant attention, and I think there is a great improvement in a better selection of prison officers, and that many abuses have lately been corrected.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Lionel Smith.*

JAMAICA.

— No. 60. —

(No. 168.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B.

No. 60.

Sir,

Downing-street, 14 October 1837.

I HAVE received your despatch, No. 162, of the 18th August, in reply to mine, No. 115, of the 1st July last. I entirely concur in the sentiments which you express with regard to the special magistrates, and I entertain full confidence in your determination to support them under all difficulties which arise from the upright and conscientious discharge of their duties. I am quite sensible of the inconvenience and interference with their usefulness in their more appropriate sphere which is likely to arise from their needless exercise of the functions of local ordinary magistrates, and I think that, except under extreme circumstances, which would justify an exception to a general rule, they ought not to exercise these functions where they are not required to do so in aid of the authority with which they are invested for the protection of the rights of the apprentices. The restriction from taking any part in parish vestries appeared to me to deprive them of an opportunity of useful interposition in matters affecting the apprentices and settled by the vestries, and for this reason I felt it my duty to make the observations contained in my despatch of the 1st of July. As, however, we perfectly agree in the principle on which their conduct should be regulated, I feel I may safely leave the matter in your hands.

I very much regret to learn that, owing to a recent decision of the chief justice as to the power of the special magistrates in defining the nature of the punishment of apprentices sentenced to imprisonment in gaols or houses of correction, you consider it in vain to expect any aid from the special magistrates in ameliorating the prison discipline of Jamaica. If it has been decided by so high an authority that the sentence of commitment to a workhouse in Jamaica by a special magistrate for an offence committed against the apprenticeship code subjects the apprentice to corporal or other punishment, contrary to the express intention of the special magistrate, who has no power of interfering, the law upon this subject appears to me in a very unsatisfactory state, and I should be most happy to know that you could look forward to its amendment. The attention which you have bestowed on the subject of prison discipline, and the results which have already appeared, are highly satisfactory; and I trust that by your continued exertions, aided by the accurate information which I hope Capt. Pringle will be able shortly to acquire of the actual condition of the gaols and workhouses in Jamaica, as well as other parts of the West Indies, all the abuses which appear at present to exist will ultimately be removed. In the meantime, however, it is of the greatest importance that the present system, where defective, should not be an instrument of oppression or cruelty towards those whose rights have been asserted by the British Parliament, and who have the strongest claims on the government for the vindication of those rights. If committals to workhouses lead to undue punishment, not contemplated in the original sentence, they must either be abandoned in the case of apprentices, or wherever an instance of this nature occurs, it ought to be immediately followed by the pardon and liberation of the apprentice thus unduly punished. Although the special magistrates may, according to the decision of the chief justice, be powerless in defining the extent of the punishment, I apprehend they have full power of inspecting the places of confinement, and on their report to you of any case of cruelty or excessive punishment, I trust your authority will be found sufficient at once to exempt the sufferer from any repetition of the infliction.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

—No. 61.—

(No. 134.)

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*,
K.C.B., dated Downing-street, 2 September 1837.

No. 61.

THE Act, No. 3232, incorporates into the permanent law of the island certain parts of the Seditious Meetings' Act, which, during the last 15 years, has been the subject of annual legislation. It therefore becomes necessary to examine these enactments with greater attention than they may have required when designed to meet a passing exigency and to serve a temporary purpose. Under this law no punishment can be inflicted, except on proof that the meeting was of a seditious or treasonable nature; and, therefore, there is to this extent no just cause to apprehend that it will improperly abridge the free utterance of public opinion. Indirectly, however, it would seem calculated to produce that effect. Not only any magistrate, but any police officer may order the dispersion of any meeting, if he shall have reasonable cause to suspect that it is held, not merely for any seditious or treasonable purpose, but for the purpose of exciting any persons to commit any act of insurrection or insubordination, or to commit any of the offences mentioned in the expired Act. Now, although the punishment is to be preceded by the proofs already mentioned, yet the right of dispersion may be exercised and will be respected, and the constable's order will be obeyed in the case of the most innocent assemblage which may excite his suspicion. Few men will, under any circumstances, hazard the risk of disobedience. I cannot think it reasonable to attribute so much weight to the suspicions of a common police officer, especially when it is not required that they should point at treason or sedition; it will be enough if he suspects that the object is to excite any person to "insubordination," a term which, however significant at present, will lose, or at least entirely change, its meaning after the 1st August 1840. Neither does it seem to me convenient that the criterion of the unlawfulness of a meeting should be derived from its suspected tendency to excite to the commission of offences denounced in an Act which has been permitted to expire. This is to give for one purpose permanency to a law which it has been thought inexpedient to revive.

For these reasons Her Majesty commands me to instruct you to recommend to the Council and Assembly the amendment of this Act in such a manner as to obviate the objections which I have noticed. Her Majesty's decision will be suspended until the result of the renewed deliberations of the Assembly on the subject shall be known.

—No. 62.—

(No. 134.)

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*,
K.C.B., dated Downing-street, 2 September 1837.

No. 62.

THE Act, No. 3233, appears to have been passed in order to obviate the objection which I made to the Act of June 1836, reducing the gaol allowance to persons committed, not for any offence, but in order that they might be forthcoming as witnesses on prosecutions. That such was the design of the legislature I infer from the title to this Act. It is plain, however, that such is not the effect of the measure, for the law of 1836 is continued for another year without amendment, and therefore the objectionable clause remains in force. You will not consent to any further revival of the Act of 1836, unless the clause reducing the allowance to witnesses be omitted.

Vide App. No. 4.

— No. 63. —

(No. 155.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K. C. B.

No. 63.

Sir,

Downing-street, 2 October 1837.

I HAVE received your despatch, No. 90, of the 4th April, enclosing the reports of the special magistrates for the quarter ending the 31st of December.

These reports are, upon the whole, favourable and encouraging. They assure me of a decrease of complaints, and an increase of confidence between the masters and apprentices; and I learn from them with much satisfaction that your endeavours to introduce a greater uniformity in the hours of labour by the establishment of the nine-hour system have been generally successful, and that measures are in progress in several districts for the establishment of a general scale of task-work. Such a scale was drawn up and promulgated in British Guiana at a very early period, and the system of task-work has been adopted in that colony almost universally, and with marked success. I am aware that, in many parts of Jamaica, the system is scarcely practicable, owing to the irregular nature of the labour or of the soil, which renders it impossible to assign the exact quantity of work of which a day's task should properly consist. But in almost every case where it has been fairly tried, whether partially or generally, the benefit appears to have been sensibly felt; and I cannot doubt that, wherever an equitable arrangement is practicable, it is for the interest of all parties that it should be made.

I observe with much satisfaction that the apprentices are almost every where in the habit of receiving wages for extra work. A few districts there are in which wages have been offered and refused; a few in which extra labour is not much wanted; and a few more in which the wages offered have been rejected as not high enough;—but in the greater number they are represented as working readily for 2s. or 3s. a day.

I have also read with great pleasure Mr. E. D. Baynes's strong denial that crime is on the increase, and his confident declaration that the punishment now inflicted by order of the special magistrates does not amount to one-hundredth part of that formerly inflicted by domestic discipline on the estates.

The condition of the free children is indeed represented by almost all the special magistrates as discouraging, and justifying some very serious apprehensions. It would appear that their mothers, so far from being anxious to avail themselves of the means of instruction which are at hand, are unwilling to subject them to any kind of restraint, even for the necessary purposes of education. The prevalence of such a feeling at this time is not unaccountable, and though I do not apprehend that it will prevail long, it may in the mean time be the source of extensive and irreparable injury to the rising generation. This is a case in which it appears to me that the Legislature may properly interfere by compelling those children to attend some school (where the opportunities exist for so doing) who would otherwise be left to grow up in ignorance, the fruitful source of misery and crime. On this subject I need only refer you to a despatch addressed by me to the Marquis of Sligo on the 15th October 1835, directing him to call the attention of the House of Assembly to the expediency of passing some well-considered law for this purpose. I cannot anticipate on the part of that body any reluctance to comply with such a recommendation. The provisions, however, of such a law would require to be very attentively considered, in order to obviate any undue restriction on the freedom of choice on the part of the parents as to the school at which their children should attend when there are more than one within their reach. But it is absolutely necessary that some immediate measures should be taken by the Legislature to avert the fatal consequences of the present system.

In

Vide Papers relative to the Abolition of Slavery, 1837, Part 4 (1), p. 242.

Vide Papers relative to the Abolition of Slavery, 1836, Part 3 (1), p. 143.

In the mean time, I have directed so much of these reports as relates to the condition of the free children to be extracted for the information of the trustees of the Mico Charity, whom I know to be most desirous in the application of the means which are at their disposal, including a considerable share of the Parliamentary Grant for Negro Education, to remedy the evil which is so generally complained of.

I proceed to advert to a few remaining topics which have struck me as requiring special notice.

1. It appears from Mr. E. D. Baynes's report, that in his district the apprentices are required to labour for the estate $40\frac{1}{2}$ hours weekly, exclusive of the time taken up in walking from their houses to the field. Mr. Baynes argues that the time so employed ought to be considered as spent in the service of the estate, and included in the $40\frac{1}{2}$ hours; he speaks, however, as if this opinion had been overruled. I have searched in vain among my own and my predecessor's despatches for an intimation to that effect. I entirely concur with him in thinking that a reasonable time for this purpose ought to be deducted from the hours to which the employer is entitled; and in the absence of any authoritative decision of this point, I think the magistrates fully entitled to adopt this construction of the law.

2. My attention is drawn by Mr. Cooper to another claim which it seems that the employers are in the habit of making, and in which he thinks they are warranted by the law as it now stands. They claim repayment of the time spent by the mothers in attendance on their free children when sick. On this point I have to request you will refer to my despatch of the 15th of December 1835, in which you will find a statement of the principle by which the special magistrates should be guided in rejecting or admitting this claim. I trust, however, as this subject of dispute is alluded to by very few of the magistrates, that the claim is not generally made.

Vide Papers relative to the Abolition of Slavery, 1836, Part 3 (1), p. 104.

3. Mr. Cooper complains also of the bad management of some of the hothouses, where all the patients are locked up together in a close room without distinction as to the nature or the stage of their diseases.

Another evil connected with these institutions was pointed out in a former report by Mr. Gregg,—the custom of sending convalescent apprentices to their own grounds to procure food; in consequence of which unseasonable exertion he said that many relapses took place. He suggested that the regulations of the hothouses should be revised, and that they should be placed more on the footing of hospitals. He did not, however, enter into a detailed explanation of the existing regulations which he considered objectionable, or of the precise alterations which his proposed reform could involve.

As I do not find these evils alluded to by the other magistrates, I conclude that they are exceptions to the general rule. The management of these establishments is, however, so closely connected with the health and comfort of the apprenticed population that they ought to be narrowly watched. I trust you will not lose sight of any abuses which may be detected in them, or of any suggestions which may be offered for a practicable and effectual reform.

4. Mr. Marlton complains of the discipline in the house of correction in Port Maria, in which it appears that the prisoners are all chained together, without distinction as to sex, age or crime, and worked in the same gang; a discipline which must degrade but cannot reform them. It appears, however, that the house of correction is a parochial institution, in which the special magistrate has no power of effecting any alteration.

As this is a matter which will fall peculiarly under the notice of Captain Pringle, in the course of his inspection of prisons in Jamaica, this representation has been communicated to him. The evil is one of a very serious nature, but at present I can only refer you to the general instructions contained in my despatch, No. 100, of the 31st May last, and to the opinion expressed in my despatch, No. 285, of the 14th June 1836, that special magistrates ought to abstain from committing any apprentices to places of confinement where abuses exist to which they have not the power of applying a remedy.

Vide Papers relative to the Abolition of Slavery, 1836, Part 3 (1), p. 306.

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5. In a former report Mr. Lyon called attention to a practice, to which he does not, however, again allude, namely, the interdiction of intercourse between the free husband and the apprenticed wife, and *vice versa*. This appears to be resorted to for the purpose of discouraging the apprentices from purchasing their discharge, and to be effected sometimes by threats of prosecution under the Trespass Act, and sometimes by charging the emancipated party with an exorbitant rent.

This practice (though I do not find it complained of generally), Mr. Lyon states to be prevalent in his district, and, as he has reason to believe, in every part of the island.

With the rent which the proprietor thinks fit to demand for the use of his property (much as it is to be regretted that he should use his power for such a purpose), it is of course impossible to interfere. But with respect to prosecutions for trespass, it must always be in the power of the negroes themselves, by abstaining from the violation of any positive law, to visit each other's huts without rendering themselves liable to prosecution. On this subject I would refer you to a despatch addressed to the Marquis of Sligo by Mr. Spring Rice, on the 10th of November 1834, in which the following observations are made with reference to a question which had been asked as to the right of apprentices to visit each other's huts: "On the third question, whether the bye-paths by which the slaves were accustomed to resort to their huts are now open to them as apprentices, I agree with the Attorney-general, that no man can lawfully stop up ancient paths; but it appears to me that the apprentices must be considered as tenants, and as having the rights incident to that character; amongst these is the right of resorting to the tenement demised by any accustomed or convenient pathway lying through the land of the person making the demise.

"The right of a wife, real or putative, to resort to her husband's hut, and there to remain with him in opposition to the will of the proprietor of the soil, seems to me to rest upon an equally clear ground. In common with every other tenant, the apprenticed labourer may admit upon the demised premises any person whom it may be his pleasure to receive there. The Act of Assembly, indeed, enables the constables to imprison any apprentice not employed on the plantation who may be found loitering thereon, without the knowledge or permission of the owner. But these terms certainly cannot apply to the case of a woman engaged in her ordinary duties or pursuits under the roof of her real or supposed husband."

6. Mr. Dillon calls attention, for the third time, to the prevalence of yaws in his district, and repeats his suggestions as to the necessity of erecting district hospitals, and compelling the managers to send all persons afflicted with this disease to the nearest place of cure. He adds, that if this recommendation should again pass unnoticed, he means to petition the legislature of Jamaica on the subject.

Mr. Dillon's previous suggestions to the same effect had not escaped me; but as the other special magistrates were silent on this point, and as no information with regard to it had reached me from any other quarter, I had not sufficient proof of the necessity of such a measure to justify me in recommending to the Assembly the adoption of it. If, however, you should find, on inquiry, that the question is really as important as Mr. Dillon imagines, you will not fail to bring it under the consideration of that body.

7. With a view to the greater efficiency of the special magistracy, Mr. Gregg recommends that all complaints should be heard by two special magistrates instead of one; which might be done if convenient stations were chosen, and the two magistrates made a perpetual circuit round their district, sitting for two days at a time at each station.

Mr. Bourne had previously drawn attention to the manner in which the districts are at present distributed; and suggested that each special magistrate should be placed in the centre of his district within reach of every estate; and that a small number of policemen should be stationed close to his residence.

It is impossible for me, without further information, to pronounce on the merits of these suggestions; but it is probable that some arrangement which
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would facilitate the administration of justice by the special magistracy might be made with great advantage, and I shall be happy if you find yourself able to adopt or suggest any more effectual means for this purpose than at present exist.

I have thought it better to bring these matters specially under your notice, but I am persuaded they have not escaped your attention. Of this I have long been aware, and every fresh communication from you confirms me in the conviction resulting from your conduct both in Barbadoes and Jamaica, that you are quite alive to the importance of leaving no means untried for the correction of any abuse, the existence of which these reports may lead you to suspect.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg.*

— No. 64.—

(No. 156.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K. C. B.

Sir,

Downing-street, 2 October 1837.

No. 64.

I HAVE received your despatch, No. 128, of the 12th of June, enclosing the reports of the special magistrates for the quarter ending on the 31st of March.

I have read these reports with attention and, upon the whole, with satisfaction. Mr. E. D. Baynes gives, indeed, a discouraging account of the state of feeling subsisting between the apprentices and their employers in his district; but I am happy to observe that in this respect his report forms a contrast to the rest; his appears to be one of the very few districts in which the eight-hour system still prevails; and the rate of wages which are there given for extra labour is certainly below the average. I cannot but hope, therefore, that the remaining abuses to which he calls attention are not so prevalent in other parts of Jamaica as he may suppose. In these reports the general conduct of the apprentices is almost every where stated to be good; and the instances in which a bad feeling is noticed as still subsisting between them and their employers are comparatively few. I observe, also, that although the crop, owing to the dry weather, is not expected to be a plentiful one, there is not a single magistrate by whom the anticipated failure is attributed to any misconduct or want of industry on the part of the labouring population.

After what I have already said in my previous despatches, there is only one topic to which I think it necessary more particularly to advert.

Both Mr. Baynes and Mr. Marlton complain of the practice of punishing apprenticed labourers by order of local magistrates; I can scarcely believe that a practice so obviously illegal is generally prevalent; but you will remember that in all such cases a summary remedy is in your hands, which it will be your duty to exercise. Every instance of this kind will be immediately reported to you by the special magistrate, and you will lose no time in remitting the punishment, and in removing from the commission of the peace the local magistrate by whose authority it was inflicted.

With regard to appraisements, which form the subject of Mr. Hill's report, I abstain at present from making any remarks, both because you state that the question is under your consideration, and because I could add little to what I have already said on this subject in a despatch which has been laid before the legislature of Jamaica. Mr. Hill appears to me to have succeeded very well in proving the unfairness of the system against which he contends; but has not suggested any adequate remedy, nor defined with equal precision the principle upon which they ought to be conducted.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg.*

Vide Papers relative to the Abolition of Slavery, 1837, Part 4 (1), p. 310.

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— No. 65. —

(No 172.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B., to
Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Spanish Town, 8 Sept. 1837.

In transmitting the usual quarterly reports for the period ending 30th June, from the special magistrates, I beg to point your Lordship's attention to that of Mr. Chamberlain, for a district in St. Thomas in the East.

He is unfortunately involved in disputes with some of the principal planters in that parish, and I have set on foot an inquiry into their causes and origin.

As far as my information at present enables me to judge, Mr. Chamberlain has been right; and I have directed him to be defended, should an action ultimately be carried on against him.

I would, however, beg your Lordship to suspend any decision on his report, till I can transmit all the circumstances connected with the proceedings of both parties.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Lionel Smith*.

(Enclosures in No. 65.)

(No. 1.)

Kingston, 8 July 1837.

Encl. in No. 65.

I HAVE the honour to enclose four reports, for the month and quarter ending 30th June 1837; viz. a return of complaints; a return of the number and nature of complaints, &c.; a return of valuations; and a return according to Table A.

From the nature of the complaints, and of the punishments inflicted, it is satisfactory to suppose, that the conduct of the apprentices in the parish of Kingston is gradually improving.

There appears no unusual bad feeling, at the present moment, between the apprentice and his owner; yet much reciprocal kindness can scarcely be imagined to exist between parties whose interests are so directly opposed, where one endeavours to exact as much exertion as possible, and the other exercises every ingenuity to escape from a task, for which he obtains not the slightest remuneration.

The apprentice is fully aware of the value of his labour, and never fails to exact it when opportunities offer. The usual rate of wages for a common labourer, per diem, is from 1 s. 6 d. to 2 s. sterling, and for a mechanic, from 3 s. to 5 s. per diem, sterling. The condition of the free children of apprentices, who are not attached to wealthy, respectable families, must be wretched in the extreme; and, I am afraid, much distress and crime is occasioned by the total inability of the parents to support them. The usual allowance amongst respectable families, for the weekly support of a domestic, is 3 s. sterling per week; some give 4 s.; but the most numerous class of owners insist upon a right to afford no more than 2 s. sterling per week. This claim, they state, is founded on the 16th clause of the Abolition Act, which refers, as a guide on this subject, to "An Act for the Government of Slaves," passed in the year 1831. The 11th clause of that Act states, that the slave shall have good and ample provision, but not one word as to the amount in money. In order to obtain this, they refer to a Slave Act, passed in 1816, wherein 2 s. sterling are laid down as equivalent to provisions, &c. If reference is again made to the "Act for the Government of Slaves," passed in 1831, clause 52, it will be found, that the minimum of food given to slaves confined in the house of correction is such as would cost, at the present moment, 6 s. 8 d. sterling for each individual per week. The apprentice, therefore, of the present day, has but one-third the quantity of food allowed him which was afforded to slaves, confined as prisoners, from the year 1831 up to August 1834. The fact is, provisions are fully two-thirds higher priced at the present moment than in the year 1816.

This exposition will in some measure account for the numerous complaints on the single head of absence, which, in this town, chiefly means nothing more than non-payment of wages, or rather the appropriation of the profit of his own labour to the apprentice himself. It will also throw some light on the frequent cases of petty thefts, which are so often brought before the notice of the local magistrates.

Every

Every facility is now afforded for the education and religious instruction of the lower orders in Kingston; but the apprentice is still too much confined by the duties required by his owner to avail himself of the means thus offered. Nor is it probable the owner will submit to a considerable pecuniary loss, occasioned by the absence of an apprentice, for the purpose of education, who, in a few short months, will be beyond his guidance and control.

When the small sum now awarded (average 8 *l.* sterling) for the remainder of the term of an apprenticeship, together with the comparative small number (27) who have, under the 9th clause of the Abolition Act, claimed, during the last quarter, their freedom, is considered, either little desire to be released from servitude, or much poverty, must be inferred. When free, the apprentice generally continues the pursuits he was previously habituated, and from the few instances which have come under my observation, a most material improvement has taken place in his condition.

I would most respectfully beg to suggest the immediate adoption of a registry-office for servants; and the establishment of a savings' bank, of such high character as would insure the confidence and support of the labouring classes of this community.

I have, &c.

H. Moresby, Special Justice.

Charles H. Darling, Esq.,
Gov. Sec., Spanish Town.

(No. 2.)

Sir,

Port Antonio, Portland, 17th July 1837.

IN conformity to the orders of your Excellency, date 23d September 1836, and No. 63, I have the honour to transmit my replies to the questions, commencing with the first.

1. The general conduct of the apprentices in my district has, with some exceptions, been very good. Complaints have been made of insufficiency of work, but not on many properties. I regret to say that pilfering fruit, ground provisions, canes and corn, still continues, and of which proprietors and overseers complain much.

2. There certainly is no want of good feeling at present between the employers and the apprentices; but during the month of May I was compelled to punish many whole gangs, and make unpleasant examples.

3. With the exception of going late to work in the morning on some properties, mothers of young children neglecting their work under pretence of attending to their children, of whom there are very few who do so, I am inclined to think they do work willingly.

4. The working hours, as established by law, are from sunrise to sunset, never working more than nine hours a day, or 40 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours a week, with the exception where some particular allowances are given, when they work 45 hours. Time always divided, so that they may have sufficient time to retire from labour to rest.

5. Task-work is resorted to on very few properties. I have only sanctioned the work of manufacture of sugar. I entertain no doubt but when task-work is established by law, it will lead to excellent consequences.

6. On some properties the apprentices will work in their own time, in the manufacture of sugar, at the rate of 2 *d.* an hour; also in digging cane-holes, at the rate of 5 *d.* and 6 *d.* the dozen.

7. No indulgence is withheld them.

8. The condition of the free children is lamentable; it is supposed that their mothers support them. They pass their time in idleness, and are perfect nuisances to the properties on which they reside. Many are now of an age capable of light work; but their mothers make every objection to their being employed.

9. There is a school in Port Antonio, to which a few free children are sent. There is also a Sunday-school, conducted by the clergyman of the parish, and another by the Wesleyan clergyman. The church is well attended, but much too small: one of larger dimensions is to be erected, and a chapel is in progress.

10. There does not appear to be a very general desire among the apprentices to purchase their discharge, although many have the means. Two house servants have purchased their discharge in this quarter.

11. One man, a carpenter, is manager of a small property; another is a fisherman; the women generally hire themselves as domestics.

12. It is a general opinion that the ensuing return will exceed considerably those of late years. The seasons have been very fine.

13. I have no suggestion to make.

I have, &c.

Henry Waddington, Special Justice.

His Excellency Sir Lionel Smith,
&c. &c. &c.

(No. 3.)

Sir,

St. Thomas in the Vale, 1 July 1837.

IN compliance with the orders contained in your circular, No. 63, the King's House, 23d September 1836, I beg leave to state.

1 & 2. That the general conduct of the apprentices in my district, since my last report, has

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has been satisfactory. That there appears to be no want of good feeling between their employers and themselves.

3. That since the new scale of labour has been adopted, complaints for deficiency of labour has nearly ceased, the apprentices working cheerfully under it.

4. The nine-hour system is worked upon; half an hour allowed for breakfast, and two hours and half relaxation for dinner.

5. Task-work is by no means general, and when resorted to, is by mutual agreement.

6. The apprentices receive every encouragement to work in their own time for wages; the rates varying from 2s. 6d. to 3s. 4d. per day, paid in money; but five out of seven prefer taking their time, as far as my observation has gone.

7 & 8. I am not aware that any indulgences are withheld; but, on the contrary, many conceded; and the condition of free children depends very much on the care of their parents, who receive much assistance in that respect from the estates.

9. A school is now forming for the education and religious instruction of children; and the attendance at church and in the school bears a fair proportion to the accommodation.

10 & 11. Where they have the means, the apprentices evince a desire to purchase their discharge; but I have given none since my last report. When discharged, they generally hire out in any way they consider most advantageous to themselves.

12 & 13. The prospects for the ensuing crops are highly satisfactory, the seasons hitherto most favourable, and the general state of cultivation rather more forward than last year; and I beg leave to state, since the new scale of labour has been acted upon, that the apprentices appear to work more cheerfully, and on some estates have completed their day's labour by 11 and 12 o'clock.

R. S. Warren, Esq.
Secretary, &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) Thomas Thomas, Special Justice.

(No. 4.)

Sir,

Windward District of St. Thomas in the Vale, 25 July 1837.

A SHARP and painful attack of sickness (a disease of the liver) having kept me confined during the last six weeks of the quarter ending 30th June, it became necessary for me to make the circuit of my district ere I could report with any accuracy on its present condition. Hence the delay of this communication.

I have now the satisfaction of being able to inform your Excellency, that this district is as tranquil, as regards the apprentices, as any in the island. Offences are of less frequent occurrence, and are almost entirely confined to the worst characters on the estates, the very dregs of the apprentice population. Labour is performed better and in greater proportion than heretofore; cultivation proceeds quietly; and on all but the very worst managed properties the state of the fields show that great improvement has taken place in the operative industry of the gangs; would to God I could add, that corresponding improvement was perceptible in the conduct of their managers, or that the apprentices were more cheerful, more happy, or better treated.

The apprentices are rapidly advancing in civilization and intelligence; they now begin to look beyond the present. Hope, a new found acquaintance, teaches them to look towards the future, and their language and conduct alike evince the eager longing with which they do look forward to the termination of the apprenticeship. To say they are content would be absurd; equally untrue would it be to say, that anything like good feelings are entertained by them, generally, towards their masters. The real, plain truth is, they have not the least confidence in those masters, least of all in their immediate managers, whose conduct, I am sorry to say, in too many instances, justifies the distrust of the apprentices.

The improvement before described, (and which is attributable solely to the pleasing anticipation of approaching freedom, which in some degree reconciles him to the endurance of his present "altered but unameliorated" condition,) has not procured for the apprentice the smallest additional indulgence; on the contrary, the desire of their managers "to make the most of them" acquires strength in proportion to the abridgment of the term in which that desideratum must be attained; and this feeling, acting upon minds soured by the prospect of early loss of their remaining power, places the characters of a majority of those gentlemen in a point of view which shows strikingly and lamentably their moral inferiority to many, very many, of those under their iron government.

The agricultural appearance of the district in general is very gratifying, and promises well for next crop; that just now "finished" has in most cases exceeded the preceding one, and some few have fallen off; all have suffered more or less by the late drought.

Scarcity of ground provisions is generally and very severely felt. The evil is ascribed to various causes, such as the drought, "indolence of the apprentices," and their practice of working for hire in their own time in preference to tilling their grounds. How far these causes have contributed to the effect complained of I cannot say; but my own experience suggests another, which I am confident has done much to produce, and is, I apprehend, very likely to prolong it, viz. the wanton and impolitic conduct of the managers in withdrawing the watchmen from the provision-grounds of their people; wanton, because the men so taken away added nothing to the effective strength of their gangs, being, in 99 cases of the 100, ulcerated, maimed, or very aged negroes; and impolitic, because the grounds thus exposed to the depredations of runaways and other thieves, hogs, cattle, &c.,

no longer afforded to the negro a certainty of return for his labour; he had no longer an inducement to plant, for the probability was he would never reap. Cases have occurred within my own knowledge of nearly the whole of an estate's gang (as, recently, at Knollis estate) after the faithful performance of their week's duty, travelling to their provision-grounds, several miles distant, only to find that the labour of their own days during many many months had been expended in vain; the cattle of some neighbouring property having broken in and destroyed at one fell swoop the blooming prospect of plentiful returns, and with it the hope of being enabled to provide for themselves, their wives and children, those necessary comforts with which their masters no longer provide them, save as a means of extorting extra labour.

The necessary consequence of such a state of things is, that the apprentice, declining to bestow his time and labour in a manner so precarious chooses, rather to work for hire, as a readier mode of supplying his wants; or when prudence, or the force of habit prevail, he hires* from some other proprietor land which he may safely cultivate, and from which the caprice of the planter cannot eject him when he ceases to be his property; thus, like the day-labourer, effectually severing his interests from those of the master who will not protect him.

The abandonment of large tracts of provision-land is thus accounted for; and as other apprentices will doubtless follow the example set by their fellows, an annual scarcity may be expected, unless the proprietors turn their attention to that branch of agriculture.

Could the planters be persuaded to examine dispassionately the position they now occupy, could they shake off the infatuation which impels them to clutch with convulsive eagerness the remnant of their waning but still pernicious power. Would they relax the unnecessary and vexatious rigour of their present mode of management, and the nip-cheese economy which enables them to save a few barrels of salt herrings, or, it may be, a piece of "penniston" or "osnaburghs," by stopping or curtailing the accustomed allowance of plantations, they might arrest the rapid progress of estrangement which is perceptibly destroying the attachment of the negro to the spot in which he was born, or where a relative, a friend, or "shipmate," lies buried, a feeling well known to exert a powerful influence on his mind, and on which those managers, who constitute the few honourable exceptions to my general account, rely, with perfect confidence, as their security for his continuance in his old station, as a free labourer, after 1840. Unhappily very few symptoms of such relaxation are observable, the great mass of managers having no vested interest in the estates under their charge, and holding their situations at the will of middlemen or "attornies," who are themselves removable by the proprietor or mortgagee at a moment's notice; take little care for the future, and are perfectly reckless of consequences that may arise from their injudicious management, and anxious only to secure their "births," they endeavour by innumerable evasions of the law and petty oppressions to make the most of the present, and goad the apprentice to increased exertion. These petty oppressions have increased in a remarkable degree.

* * * * *

While the recent decisions of the Chief Justice have so effectually hampered the magistrates, that the planter may safely pursue the course he has marked out for himself, assured that he has now little to fear from an Act which has been reduced to little more than a dead letter. A "remedial Act" passed on behalf of the negroes, but stripped of the power to benefit or protect them by the dicta of the Supreme Court. Of these facts, or at least of the insufficiency of the magistrate's power to protect them, the apprentices appear to be fully aware, and I am well assured that many of them submit in silence to grievous wrong rather than by invoking the law involve themselves in a contest with masters who now enjoy such facilities for escape from its provisions. I need not, I imagine, reiterate my representations with regard to valuations, and those loathsome dens or prisons the estate hospitals, having already had the honour of calling the attention of your Excellency, and your Excellency's predecessor, to the subject. I will only, in conclusion, repeat, that to the correct moral and religious principles of the apprentices must alone be attributed the tranquillity which happily pervades this district. To the masters no credit whatever is due.

I have, &c.

To His Excellency the Governor,
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *H. S. Cooper*,
Special Magistrate.

No. 5.

Sir,

Hope Bay, St. George's, 1 July 1837.

I regret to inform your Excellency, that the long period of dry weather which we have experienced, has very materially injured the crops, both for this and the next year. All the spring plants throughout my district have been burnt out. We have had fine rains for the last month, and vegetation is recovering itself rapidly, after having been so long stopped; but the shipments for the 1st of August have been thrown back very considerably.

The conduct of the apprentices in this part of the island continues to be very satisfactory. I have been under the necessity of using the whip somewhat severely this month on those persons who have charge of cattle, and who have allowed them to trespass on the provision grounds of the apprentices, to such an extent in some cases, that the provisions have been

entirely

* Extensively practised by apprentices in the mountain part of this district.

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entirely destroyed, and a great proportion of the people supported by the overseer on rice and oatmeal. Ground provisions were never known to be so scarce as they are now. Yams are just coming into season, and if the weather continues favourable, I trust that the present scarcity will soon cease.

I have, &c.

(signed) *William Hewitt.*

(No. 6.)

Sir,

Dover House, St. George's, 1 July 1837.

THE general conduct of the apprentices in my district, since my last general quarterly report, has been peaceable and industrious; they perform their labour well and willingly; and to these causes I attribute the good feeling which almost universally subsists between them and their owners. The spirit and disposition of both toward each other is generally of a more amicable description than I have observed since I came to the island: and a desire to encourage mutual forbearance and confidence seems to spread more and more every day. Complaints against employers are very few; whilst on the other side the charges now brought forward are neither so numerous nor of so aggravated a nature as formerly.

As regards task-work, the working hours generally in use, of the intervals of relaxation, I beg to refer to my report of 11th October 1836, no alteration having been made since that period.

During the unusually dry weather which prevailed for almost four months in the beginning of the year, ground provisions either grew very badly, or else failed altogether; those planted since the commencement of the rains have not yet become fit for consumption, consequently the people are not as plentifully supplied with provisions as usual, and the desire or necessity to work for money wages on Saturdays has proportionably increased. The people generally insist on being paid according to the quantity of work each individual performs, and some earn from 2 s. 6 d. to 4 s. 2 d. and upwards per diem, at field work.

On the subject of withholding indulgences, with which the people were accustomed to be supplied whilst they were slaves, I beg to refer to my Report of 31 December 1836.

The condition of the free children is altogether that of the most uncontrolled liberty to wander about in perfect idleness. They are, except in a few instances, not employed in any manner, and their parents appear to consider it as disgraceful or humiliating for a free child to work like apprentices. Where means of gratuitous education are at hand, it often requires some persuasion to induce them to compel their children to attend at school. The schools at Annotto Bay under the management of the parish authorities are very badly attended; whilst that at Fort Stewart, under the direction of the curate, is in a flourishing condition.

Only one man, a cooper, has purchased his discharge since my last report. I am informed that he has hired himself to his previous master, Mr. Bond, of Annotto Bay, to work at his trade as usual.

The drought in the beginning of the year injured many cane-fields so considerably, that it was found necessary to plant them over again when the rains commenced. Much valuable time and labour have been expended in vain, and canes that should be cut for this year's crop must stand over for next; and although the fields generally are now in tolerably good order, and appearances very favourable, there must be a much smaller quantity of sugar made than planters set down in their estimates. The seasons, for the last quarter, have been very favourable for all descriptions of estates and plantation work and crops.

The appearance of the coffee plantations leads the planters to expect that they will have a much more abundant crop than they have seen for some years.

I have, &c.

J. R. Warren, Esq.,
Governor's Secretary. The King's House.

(signed) *E. E. Fishbourne*, Special Justice.

(No. 7.)

Sir,

Westmorland, Leeward District, 11 July 1837.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting, for your Excellency's information, replies to the several questions, from number 1 to 13, as required by your Excellency, to the present date.

1. Generally good.
2. I know of none.
3. Willingly and cheerfully.
4. Nine hours per diem, allowing one hour for breakfast and two for dinner.
5. Very frequent, and much encouraged by their masters and managers.
6. Usual, and encouraged so to do; receiving from 2 s. 6 d. to 3 s. 4 d. per diem, cash payment.
7. I am not aware of any.
8. They are generally supplied, as before, medical attendance, and on some estates educated.

9. Four

9. Four schools, four places for divine worship, and one church erecting (Trinity).
10. Yes, 10.
11. I know not.
12. Very good; cultivation good; season good.
13. Not any.

To His Excellency
Sir Lionel Smith, K. C. B., &c. &c. &c.
The King's House.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. D. Philp*, Special Justice.

(No. 8.)

ANSWERS to 13 Questions.

1. Good.
2. None.
3. I hear nothing to the contrary.
4. Generally nine; one allowed for breakfast and two for dinner.
5. On some properties; I know of no objection by either.
6. Frequently, when required, at 2s. 1d., 2s. 6d. per diem.
7. None.
8. Generally speaking good; by their parents.
9. Maning's free school, and several others, all well attended.
10. Not near so many; none discharged since my last report.
11. Generally as house-servants.
12. The prospects for the ensuing crop are very promising, and the general state of cultivation good; the season has been very favourable.
13. None.

(signed) *T. M. Oliver*, Special Justice.

(No. 9.)

Mount Edgecombe Pen, 10th July 1837.
Rolins's River, P. O.

Sir,
I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that, since my last quarterly return, the apprentices in this district have conducted themselves orderly and well; and on most properties are at present giving general satisfaction; complaints of all kinds are much on the decrease; good crops expected next year; the cane fields are in good order; and the general cultivation looking extremely gratifying.

To Captain S. R. Warren,
&c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) *D. W. Kelly*, S. M.

(No. 10.)

ANSWER to Circular, No. 63, King's House, 23d September 1836.

1. The conduct of the apprentices in this district has been, generally speaking, good, since I had the honour to make my last report.
2. I do not perceive much want of good feeling between the apprentices and their masters.
3. The apprentices go to their work willingly on the whole; there are, on most properties, some apprentices who work but little either for their masters or themselves.
4. The eight hour system is pretty general in this district.
5. Task-work is very generally resorted to, and the beneficial effect acknowledged by the master and felt by the apprentices.
6. As stated in my last report, there has not been much demand for extra labour lately in this district.
7. I have not heard of any of the usual indulgences being withheld from the apprentices.
8. The free children remain with their mothers, and are supported by them as heretofore.
9. In this district there are still four schools and three places of worship; the schools and the places of worship are well attended.
10. More applications have been made lately to value apprentices than usual; eight apprentices were valued in the month of June, three of whom have obtained their discharge.
11. I have not been able to ascertain the kinds of employment the negroes betake themselves to who have obtained their discharge; they disperse among the other parishes. I have not heard of any that are employed in field labour, or have offered to work there.
12. I have every reason to believe that the fields are in a high state of cultivation, and I hear from the planters that the crop now growing will be a fair one.
13. I have no suggestion to make, or any practical measure to recommend at present.

Manchester Parish, Colonies District, (signed) *H. W. Danson*, Special Justice.
4 July 1837.

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(No. 11.)

Sir,

Mandeville District, Manchester, 12 July 1837.

DURING the three months which have elapsed since the date of my last report, of the good conduct and strict attention to duty of the apprentices in this district I cannot speak too highly. Their behaviour has been such as almost entirely to put it out of the power of their masters to find fault. The complaints made were very few, and nearly in every instance of the most trifling nature. Although the conduct of the apprentices has thus been everything that their best friends could desire, of the good feeling existing between them and their employers I regret to say I cannot report so favourably as heretofore. This want of good feeling, in existence at the present moment, I have no hesitation in attributing to a desire on the part of the employer (and a desire which I observe to increase daily) to make the apprentice do more than can, with any reason, be required from him, notwithstanding they perform their work willingly and well; and the best proof I can give of the truth of this important assertion, will be in stating, that during the period to which this report refers, there has only been, in this extensive and valuable district, one complaint for deficiency of labour. Latterly the apprentices have preferred to work nine hours a day instead of eight, that they may have every half, or every other, Friday to cultivate their grounds; and on many properties the system has been changed accordingly. The intervals of relaxation during the working hours are very different; on some properties they have one hour, on others an hour and a half, and on a few two hours I believe. They have, in every instance, shown a decided preference for task-work, when the task given is reasonable and moderate, but where they imagine the task to be imposed is too much they show a determined resistance to it. They are always willing to work for wages, provided they can earn more in doing so than in cultivating their provision-grounds. The wages given is, I believe, to each apprentice, from 1*s.* 8*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.* currency per day. On the greater number of properties in my district the apprentices are served with the allowances they were accustomed to receive in the time of slavery. Sometimes, however, they are withheld for the most trifling cause. If an apprentice complains to a special magistrate of an injustice done to him they are withheld, (I mean the allowances), and every species of annoyance instantly put in play against him. I will give an instance. There is a property in my district belonging to Sir John M'Donald, and I am confident, from the system of annoyance the apprentices have to endure, that at the termination of the apprenticeship, not one of them will remain, unless, in the meantime, a different system of management is pursued. A few women came to complain that the nurses were taken away from their children by the overseer, and that he made use of the most brutal and insulting language in addressing them; for this, and because some of the others happened to ask a few questions about their rights, notice has been given that unless all the stock, &c., which they were allowed to rear on the property are taken up within a certain time, they will be shot. All their allowances have been stopped, their field cooks taken away from them, and the nurses from their free children; in fact, every way in which they can be they are annoyed. I state, and I do so without fear of contradiction, that in Manchester there are not better behaved people than on this property, yet, because they dare complain to a magistrate of an injustice done to them, does the overseer (acting, of course, under his attorney's orders) wreak his vengeance on them in this way, and set an example for men like himself to follow. The consequence of this will be that the apprentices, rather than subject themselves to such bitter and heartless persecution, will put up with anything rather than complain to a special justice. In this system of petty revenge does the attorney in question stand pre-eminently high—high above all others I have ever known.

The free children are altogether supported by their parents, who are very desirous of having them educated and brought up properly. There are very few schools in this part of the parish; where they are, I believe the free children always attend. With regard to religious instruction, I believe the accommodation is quite equal to the attendance. Since my last report only seven apprentices have been able to purchase their discharge. Numbers have endeavoured to do so, but in consequence of the high rate at which they are valued, have not been able to effect it. When they have obtained their discharge they hire themselves out. I know many instances of this. Not one where the apprentice did not betake himself to some employment.

I hear many of the planters say that even if the apprentices, in picking the ensuing crop, do the work they were accustomed to do in the time of slavery, that is to pick one barrel per day, and as much more for wages, they will not (at least they fear so) be able to gather in the whole of the crops, the trees are bearing so luxuriantly, and this although the seasons have been far from the most favourable.

Captain S. R. Warren,
Governor's Secretary. The King's House.

I have, &c.

J. W. Grant,
Special Justice.

(No. 12.)

Sir,

May-hill District, Manchester, 1 July 1837.

I HAVE the honour again to address a report to his Excellency the Governor, on the general state of the district under my superintendence, for the information of His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, agreeable to Circular No. 63. I return to this subject with great pleasure, because I am enabled to bear testimony to the increasing good conduct

conduct of the apprentices, and the improvement almost daily apparent in their social and moral-condition. In proof of their good conduct I refer his Excellency to my return of complaints for the last quarter, where I observe only 50 cases, most of which are of a very trifling nature, and in a population of between 4,000 and 5,000 people.

With regard to their condition, it is only necessary to attend the places of worship on the Sabbath, to be convinced of their eagerness to attend, their cleanly and respectable appearance, and their devout bearing, and the inadequacy of the accommodation from their numbers in the chapels. This praiseworthy feeling has been accomplished almost within the last three years, and bids fair to increase as rapidly.

I do not think there is that good feeling between the apprentices and the managers (except in a very few instances) that I could wish, and which would tend to the interest of both; this is to be attributed to the unyielding conduct of the latter, who I am confident are only restrained from relapsing into the former system by the strong arm of the law; as it is, every opposition is thrown in the way of the special magistrate, and his interference is looked upon with suspicion, and attended with abuse and insult. I have addressed his Excellency once on this subject, and I am about to do so again, for it will be impossible to perform the duties of my office unless some protection is afforded.

The working hours are, as usual, between six A. M. and four P. M., some properties allowing two hours, some one, about mid-day, for breakfast. Task-work is very general, but only adopted where it suits the interest of the property; consequently there is no regularity in this mode of labour. The usual indulgences are given generally, but for which extra work is exacted, such as watching at night. There is still on the part of the people a great desire to purchase their exemption from the apprenticeship, but it is not often accomplished, in consequence of the high valuation awarded.

I am informed the crops will be good, although the weather lately has been unfavourable. Indeed there is nothing wanted, I consider, but patience and forbearance on the part of those in charge of properties, to render the present system beneficial to all parties, and as profitable as in the brightest days of Jamaica.

To Captain S. R. Warren, &c. &c.
The King's House, Spanish Town.

I have, &c,
(signed)

John Gurley, Special Justice.

(No. 13.)

Sir,

Mile Gully Pen, 7 July 1837.

I HAVE the honour to state, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that this district is perfectly tranquil. The apprentices in so large a district, about 6,000, are generally behaving well, and I can safely state that on all the great estates the work done now during the hours of labour is equal to the work performed in the same time during slavery.

I observe with great satisfaction a mutual feeling of good will increasing between master and man, to which too much importance cannot be attached. The apprentices have not expressed any wish to change from the eight-hour system on which they are worked in this district. In many instances the people are allowed an hour and a half during the day, but nowhere less than an hour. I am glad to observe task-work generally resorted to, and I feel certain is satisfactory to the labourers.

I think the apprentice prefers his own time than to work for wages; when they do work, the wages in money is from 1s. 8d. to 2s. 4d. a day. The indulgences usual during slavery are, with very few exceptions, continued.

The parents of free children are very anxious to have them instructed, and they attend the different houses of divine worship in great numbers.

The two Protestant churches in and within reach of this district, together with several other places of worship and religious instruction, afford accommodation equal to the attendance.

I have had only two discharges effected since my last report. I cannot say to what employment the discharged apprentices betake themselves to.

The prospect of the ensuing crops is good, and the cultivation is at this moment more forward than could have been expected, from the constant and heavy rains for the last two months.

Captain S. R. Warren, &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) W. H. Allay, Special Justice.

(No. 14.)

Sir,

St. Ann, 10 July 1837.

I HAVE the honour of submitting to his Excellency the Governor the following report on the general state of this district for the quarter ending on the 30th of June last.

It is with great satisfaction that I have it in my power to report favourably of the general conduct of the apprentices in this district, as evinced in their improved habits of industry and quiet and orderly demeanour. The mutual feeling of dependance between master and apprentice, which it is a principal duty of those administering the Abolition Law to encourage, continues to extend itself in this part of the parish, and is one of the most promising features of the apprenticeship system.

The apprentices labour nine hours per day, having thus half a day every week for the cultivation

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tivation of their grounds, exclusive of Saturday; but I am extremely sorry to report, that for some time past they do not appear to have made a proper use of this time, which, if properly applied, is quite adequate to the maintenance of themselves and families; and from neglecting to labour in their own time, there is now a general deficiency of provisions, and several of the people are in a state of great destitution. Task-work is not generally applicable in this district, the greater part of the properties being pens; and there is little occasion for extra labour; but the apprentices evince no indisposition to work for hire during their own time when adequate remuneration is offered to them.

The free children are supported by their parents; but I regret to state, that they are otherwise left almost in a state of nature, there being no provision whatever for their education, and no pains taken to bring them up to habits of industry. Religious instruction is very deficient in this parish; but this defect is partly in the course of being remedied, by the erection of several dissenting places of worship.

Several valuations have taken place since the period of my last report; but of these only nine have been completed, by the payment of the sum awarded, as the value of the remaining period of the apprenticeship. In many instances the persons valued have merely transferred their services to another owner; but it is impossible to ascertain, in many cases, how they employ themselves after their release.

The seasons have of late been very favourable, and the properties in this district seem to be generally in an excellent state of cultivation.

Captain Warren, Governor's Secretary,
King's House.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry Laidlaw.*

(No. 15.)

Sir,

Brownstown, 10 July 1837.

WITH reference to circular No. 63, of 23d September last, calling for a report for the quarter ended on 30th ult., I must beg to state, the prevailing complaint is insufficiency of labour. Having received the circular No. 1,028, of 24th June, I am in hopes task-work will, in many instances, be mutually agreed on.

Complaints against apprentices have not averaged more than 19 per month. Provisions are becoming very scarce owing to the dry weather, and, in many instances, to the apprentices not working their grounds regularly. There are very few estates in this district; the rest, consisting of pen and pimento, is kept in pretty good order.

In all other respects I could not vary this report from the two preceding ones.

To C. H. Darling, Esq.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley Rawlinson,*
Special Justice.

(No. 16.)

Sir,

Islington, St. Ann's, 30 June 1837.

THIS being the period for making my quarterly report of the state of my district, for the information of his Excellency the governor,

I have the honour to state, that there is little variation in the conduct of the masters and apprentices since my last report under date of the 31st March.

The nine-hour system of labour is still continued in my district; but I am sorry to observe that, amongst those who have attempted to evade or defeat the requirements of the law and the instructions of his Excellency, are to be found some gentlemen in the commission of the peace as magistrates.

When his Excellency's circular of the 16th September last was received by me to enforce the nine-hours' system of labour, I visited the different properties, and requested the masters and managers to carry it into effect without my intervention, which, I hoped, would appear to the apprentices as a spontaneous act of their own, and was likely to create or continue a kindly feeling on the part of their dependents. It is my determination that the nine-hours' system shall be continued in operation in this district, unless his Excellency shall be pleased to direct otherwise; to revert again to the eight-hours' system of labour will create universal dissatisfaction among the apprentices, as the primary wish and object of the employers is to use it chiefly as a measure of oppression and annoyance to the apprentices.

It is my humble opinion that it is not optional with the masters, &c. (unless with the consent of the apprentices,) to work their people eight or nine hours daily, as may suit their whim or caprice; because the 5th clause of the Act in Aid distinctly states, that "field labour shall commence with sunrise and terminate with sunset, giving such cessation in the middle of the day as, with the usual half hour allowed for breakfast, shall reduce the actual time of labour to nine hours in the day." And the 47th clause of the Act for the Abolition of Slavery states, that "whereas provision made in this Act confines the hours of labour which the master is entitled to from such apprenticed labourers to 45 hours, or five days of nine hours each, in one week;" and again, same clause, "that from and after the 1st day August next, every prædial apprenticed labourer shall be entitled to 4½ hours, out of the 45 weekly working hours hereinbefore mentioned, for the cultivation of his or her ground."

It therefore appears to me, that if the apprentices are to labour nine hours in the day
and

and that $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours are to be allowed them out of the 45 hours of five days in the week, that the said $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours must be given consecutively, and not by piecemeal, so as to enable the employers to cheat them out of that portion of time. The field constables, with few exceptions, not having timepieces, renders it difficult to prove, to conviction, when the people are defrauded of an hour of their time, when given daily, under the eight-hours' system; but it is not such an easy matter to be accomplished when the half day, or $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours, is given consecutively; besides the $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours is given, in the express words of the Act, for the cultivation of their (the apprentices') grounds. How is this cultivation to be carried into effect if doled out by the hour daily. It is well known that the negro grounds in this island are generally at the distance of half to three miles; the time so allowed would be consumed in walking to and back from such grounds.

It is true that during the time of crop, or in cases of other emergency, the $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours can be taken away, but it must be repaid again afterwards, as stipulated in the 47th clause.

In cases of valuation, I have been actually surprised and ashamed to see owners offering to swear, in order to convert a non-prædial into a prædial, or to the valuable services of an apprentice, for the purpose of enhancing the valuation, who, a short time previous, in case of a complaint against the same individual, in order to procure conviction, would on oath denounce the delinquent as the very worst character on the estate.

Hitherto, in compassion for the infirmity of human nature, and in the hope and expectation that as the apprenticeship diminishes, these gentry would reflect and pursue a more laudable system of management, which would tend to the interest and ultimate benefit of both parties, I have abstained from animadverting upon such conduct, but I now find that all advice or admonition is lost upon people who appear determined to throw every obstacle in the way of the well working of the apprenticeship.

As regards myself individually, I have no fault to find with the masters and managers of this district; they are always polite and civil, which is reciprocated by me on all occasions; but no consideration shall induce me to permit any violation of the law.

Since my last report, I have discovered that there is also a Sunday-school recently established at the Baptist chapel, at Echo Rios, in which both apprentices and free are taught to read; there are, I understand, upwards of 200 scholars, males and females; the particulars of which the Rev. Mr. Abbott has promised to furnish me with as early as possible, when it shall be forwarded for his Excellency's information; there is also a small school kept by a Mr. Hemming, having from 15 to 20 apprentices' free children, who pay the teacher from 10*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.* per week for tuition.

The very severe and long-continued drought experienced here up to the middle of May last, has been productive of such a scarcity of provisions, that many persons, both free and apprentices, are reduced to great want; it is with difficulty that any can be procured even for money; however, from the late rains, I anticipate that this scarcity will not last long, as the yam season will be next month, and other ground provision will be fit for consumption soon.

The whole face of the country now exhibits a most pleasing appearance, particularly the grazing pens.

The sugar estates and pimento properties, I regret to say, have suffered much from the dry weather, and the sugar crop will consequently fall short; the pimento crop will amount to almost a total failure.

There has been only eight discharged from apprenticeship this quarter, arising chiefly from the cause assigned in my last report.

C. H. Darling, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) J. Woolfrye,
Special Justice.

(No. 17.)

Sir,

Retirement Great House,
St. Ann's, July 1, 1837.

I HAVE the honour to state, for the information of the Executive, that the last quarter has not been less remarkable for peaceful, obedient, and industrious conduct, than the preceding one. The Abolition Law, which recognises crimes, omissions, and offences not to be found in any other code, and which dictates commensurate punishment, has (in a population exceeding 5,000 labourers) been but little infringed upon. Nor do I think, as I formerly stated, that with such laws, and such a population, there can be fewer infractions, even to the termination of the apprenticeship.

The prospects of the planter have never been better; whilst privations exist amongst the people, owing to an unpropitious season for planting and maturing their provisions.

They work willingly for hire, and receive at the rate of 2*s.* 6*d.* or 3*s.* a day in cash.

Task-work gives them either profit or relaxation, according to individual taste; its adoption, I regret to say, is not general in this district.

With a few exceptions, the managers are attentive to the wants of the people. Cruelty is known as connected with the memory of "by-gone days" only. The captious or hypochondriac can withhold salt-fish, deprive them individually, but not collectively, of the profits of keeping spell; change the nine-hour to the eight-hour system, and render the hot-house more a prison than an asylum: but, to the honour of my district, there are but few that

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would tolerate, much less descend, to such petty oppressions, whilst the exceptions are strictly reduced to these subterfuges and annoyances.

C. H. Darling, Esq.,
Gov. Sec., &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) T. A. Dillon, S. M.

N.B.—The writer of this report has been obliged, in the performance of his duty, to ride nearly 500 miles a month for upwards of two years: and if aught should be omitted in detail, his Excellency will be pleased to impute it to the sympathy between mind and body, the exhaustion of the latter extending its power over the former.

(No. 18.)

Shawbury, St. Ann's Bay,
July 4, 1837.

Sir,

IN obedience to your Excellency's commands, I have the honour to report the state of my present district, and to acquaint your Excellency that the apprentices appear inclined to conduct themselves very well at present. However, provisions are not plenty, owing to the late drought, and the jobbing gangs of my district appear to suffer a good deal; for, in general, the eight-hour system has been adopted by the proprietors. They show an inclination to work, in their own time, for wages; the average is about 2 s. 6 d. per day of five hours; they are, in general, at field labour at six o'clock, but they are allowed ample time for breakfast and dinner. On some estates the people are not supplied as they had been during slavery; I allude to salt-fish and salt; but on estates where these indulgences are granted, the people appear content, and their labour given with free goodwill. Task-work, when the people are engaged digging cane-holes, appears to give satisfaction to both parties. It appears to me that the apprentices are not here inclined to purchase their freedom with the same desire that existed in my late parishes; but the scale of valuation in my present district is much higher than that in practice in St. Elizabeth.

The sugar estates will, it is supposed, make good returns; but pimento-walks are generally blighted, and the proprietors have no hope left as to favourable returns.

His Excellency Lieut.-Gen. Sir Lionel Smith,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) J. Reynolds, S. J.

(No. 19.)

1 July 1837, Salt Gut, P. O.

Your Excellency,

I HAVE the honour, in conformity with standing orders, to report generally for the information of Ministers and Parliament, on the state of my district, and my personal knowledge on the working of the apprenticeship system.

I am happy to say that the apprentices are going on soberly, diligently, and faithfully. No doubt remains of their making loyal subjects towards the throne and government.

They have decidedly surpassed their masters in the advance to Christian knowledge, the foundation of all blessings. The masters would get a great deal more work from them were they to forget former power, and to talk to them, and point out rationally any little fault, instead of threatening to coerce them before the special magistrate. Allowances must be made for the masters, they are smarting under the loss of self-power; however, many of them now seem to think that they can do anything with impunity, and that they have nothing to do but get up a memorial, to have the "special" dismissed, if he does not go hand and hand with them, and they impress this on the labourers, by threats of reporting the "special." I regret to say, that the negroes, in consequence, think that the magistrates are afraid of their masters. I speak of my own district, and, I may add, others. I am not afraid of doing justice, while my king and his people are determined to uphold it. Conciliation has completely failed, and in many cases, it is only by firmness that I can get the people their rights. I mention this much, as a proof that if the special magistrates are not upheld by the British Crown, in the upright and due discharge of their duty, slavery would be infinitely preferable than the present system, to the apprentice; and were I now to breathe my last moment, I could, conscientiously, make my solemn vow of this fact. Very little has been done at all by the masters to benefit the labourers, indeed, I may say, nothing; and I loudly exclaim to Parliament, to be very rigid, and to look sharply into the apprentices' rights, and to their protection.

Three long years of apprenticeship yet unexpired! I am of opinion we have not advanced this year in anything, and I can see that slavish fear fast returning into the hearts of the apprentices.

With reference to the working hours, and the willingness of the apprentices to labour in their own time, I can only repeat that which I have often repeated, they are capable of doing anything, and for any given sum, when kindly treated.

I mentioned in my report of the 12th ultimo that the allowances of salt, &c. was not withheld on some estates. I find that any indulgence of that kind is paid for; the people giving up every half of Friday, in crop time, to remunerate; so in plain English we get no indulgence at all.

We have a very zealous young clergyman, the Rev. G. Waters, in our district, at Retreat. The church was built by subscription; and we are all indebted to Henry Cox, one of the proprietors, for his assistance and undertakings in so devoted a cause. I anticipate much good to spring from Retreat church and the minister.

No school has yet been erected; but I hope that as things improve, that the necessity of an immediate one will present itself to all.

The seasons have been unfavourable toward the present crops; such dry weather, I am told by old residents of the island, had not been experienced for 40 years; and a considerable falling off must be the result.

The labourers discharged from apprenticeship are turning out most industrious and respectable; indeed language cannot convey the happy change.

England, the black population will never deceive you, they are a grateful people; but mark me, if you do not uphold the special magistrates, and protect them in that arduous and solemn duty confided to them, the apprentices will be made to bow to tacit slavery, and discontent will be the result.

I therefore say watch the present, and success, with God's care, will be the result.

His Excellency Sir Lionel Smith,
&c. &c. &c.

(signed)

I have, &c.
Henry Walsh, Special Justice,
Saint Mary.

(No. 20.)

Sir,

Bishop Mount, St. Mary's, 10 July 1837.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency my quarterly report on the state of my district, for the quarter ending 30th June, and to represent that the district under my charge is in a tranquil state, the apprentices having conducted themselves as well as can be wished, to the satisfaction of their employers generally, since my last report; and there appears to be a very good feeling and understanding on both sides.

There are one or two properties which occasionally give me more trouble than a dozen other estates together. When I find conciliation fail, I resort to punishment, which falls on the same set of people, who periodically appear before me.

Desertion, trespass, neglect of duty, &c., continue to be the usual complaints brought against the apprentices; but they appear to be only such as are to be expected from the change from slavery to apprenticeship, and are very trivial in proportion to the population.

There are many faults committed by apprentices in consequence of the difficulty they observe the manager has in correcting them; but from the general industry and good conduct of the labourers, the managers pass over many complaints; and I conceive this forbearance tends much to destroy the old system of coercion, and to bring about the best understanding between the master and free labourer.

The abolition measure is working as well as the most sanguine could desire: not that I mean to say the law is in force according to its letter. I can only repeat what I have so often said in my reports, that I get all that I can for the apprentices in the way of allowances and time, and make them give a fair return. There is not a written agreement in my district; both parties understand what has been verbally agreed on according to the estate's wants and capabilities, and they very fairly keep it.

The labourers' wages have not been altered, although the rate of jobbing labour is much higher now than two years since; 6s. 8d., 5s. and 3s. 4d. being given on estates per week of five days, for extra labour to the spell-gang, keeping the mill about 18, 16 and 14 hours daily, as the property may require. They have their allowance of fish, &c., as formerly, and the half of Friday, or every alternate Friday, when the mill is not about. Two hours for dinner or shell-blow, and half an hour for breakfast, allowed as relaxation from field-labour, which commences shortly before sunrise and terminates at dusk. In consequence of long continued dry weather the cultivation suffered; but during the last quarter rain has fallen in abundance, and the appearance for next year's crop is favourable.

The crop this year will be late, and is expected to be deficient, from causes unconnected with the abolition measure.

The apprentices' provision-grounds have suffered in the same manner; but the rains have given them a new appearance. Still provisions are very dear and scarce. Many apprentices do not cultivate grounds, but depend on wages in their own time for support, and travel to the mountains on Saturday to purchase a supply for the week. The free children of apprentices are entirely under the management of their parents; all attempts to engage them in plantation labour, such as weeding canes, or collecting vegetable food for swine, having failed. They attend the missionary-school on the property, where such an opportunity of instruction is afforded them; and lately there has been more attention paid to the subject. The apprentices cannot, from local difficulties, send their children any distance to a day-school: to make instruction succeed, it must be by having a school similar to the one on Tryall, Mr. Bayley's property, so situated that the neighbouring estates can conveniently send the children, and let them return in the evening.

Since my last report 28 apprentices have effected their discharge by purchase. They are in general very desirous of freedom; but the high price of labour, and the value placed on their services, frequently prevent their release. I consider it hopeless to expect any change in the valuation tribunal, which leaves the special justice powerless, constituted as it is. The present rate of valuation for the services of a first-class prædial labourer is just what it was 12 months since: the planters see jobbing labour has risen in value, and the local valuers increase the rate of valuation.

It has been my constant endeavour to persuade both employer and apprentice that their mutual interest is conciliation. When the apprentices have all those indulgences given them, not secured by the Abolition Law, their interest and duty is to make a grateful

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return and labour cheerfully; and I am happy to say, it is the case on every well-managed estate. The kind overseer receives from me the fullest support; and I have always observed, that when he is attentive to his business, steady and kind, and strict in his management, that the apprentices are industrious and contented, cheerfully doing much more than the law labour.

There are on all estates some refractory characters. Three years experience of the new system leaves them without any excuse for misconduct; but of the apprentices in general I am bound to say, as far as I have seen, their conduct is deserving of every praise and reward in the power of their employers to give them.

His Excellency Sir Lionel Smith, G. C. B.,
&c. &c. &c.,
Governor of Jamaica.

I have, &c.
W. F. Marltou,
Special Justice.

(No. 21.)

Sir,

S. E. Division, St. Mary's, 30 June 1837.

THE period having returned when it becomes my duty to comply with the terms of the circular order of the 23d September last, No. 63, I now have the honour to lay before you the following report in relation to the district under my charge, within the limits of which an uninterrupted tranquillity has existed throughout the quarter now arriving at a conclusion; in fact it may be said that during the course of the execution of my duties for upwards of two years in this district of the parish, no one period similar to that now particularly referred to has passed away with so marked an improvement in the character of the offences charged, the most serious of which must be classed under the head of "absence, and running away," an offence of which the possibility of commission must necessarily cease on the termination of the system fast progressing to a happy close, a change bringing with it the reasonable expectation that the abolishment of the majority of the other causes for complaint will ensue, which now clog the magistrates proceedings, and are fanned from the remaining taints of an old and by-gone system, causes which the coming independence, as well as mutual dependence of both parties, and the holding out of other inducements to good conduct, other than the fear of punishment, will tend totally to annihilate, when their mutual interest will cement those good feelings which are entertained with the most favourable results in all instances where the immediate interest of those in charge is affected by the conduct of the apprentices, who readily respond, as a body, to advances of this nature, when put forth in the proper quarter.

Unfortunately it is but in few instances that the immediate management of plantations is placed in the hands of parties similarly situated, although the results, from the adoption of such a course, are everywhere palpably beneficial to the interests both of proprietor and his people. I have reason to regret, sir, that such an overwhelming number of the plantations recognised by the 54th section of the Abolition Law, are in the charge of individuals so little interested in their management, and whose tenure of their appointments is liable to be interrupted by so many occurrences, that, during a period of two years, no less than 71 managers have been employed on those properties (being only 27 in number) of sufficient importance to require the residence of such persons. In short, on only two properties has no change taken place, whilst on others so many as "five" overseers have, during that period, been engaged. Notwithstanding these numerous changes, each in itself productive of a certain unsettlement in the arrangements to which the people are subjected, (both parties, till become acquainted with the disposition, &c., of the other, speculating thereon), notwithstanding this drawback, it must still be said that things are progressing with a degree of satisfaction to all parties; the state of cultivation is equal to, if it does not surpass, that of last year, and although the sugar crop is short, in consequence of the long prevalence of dry weather, yet the produce of the coffee plantations is expected to be most abundant.

The provision grounds, though, with a few solitary exceptions, kept in perfect cultivation, have suffered materially from this state of the weather, yet it is to be lamented that, in very many instances, the improvidence of the apprentice has (by grasping at the high-prices proceeding from the general scarcity) reduced him from the possession of abundance to that closely approaching to a state of want; this has given rise to occasional bickerings; but no circumstance has given rise to such dissatisfaction as the operation of "the Act for the Classification of Apprentices," especially amongst the tradesmen, who, looking forward to their release with domestic servants in 1838, (in consequence of the nature of their occupation, and, in the majority of cases, from having been to that effect informed by the valuers) but who find their class is now determined by the method in which they have been fed. The greatest disappointment is felt by those men whose occupation has been solely that of mechanics, at all times employed as such under master tradesmen, but the manner in which these men have submitted to the law thus reversing their hopes is most satisfactory.

In order to conform with the particulars required, as laid down in the circular before alluded to, I have further to report, that the "nine hours per day" system of labour is still, with only two exceptions, that adopted throughout the whole extent of this district, whereby the apprentices, by having to themselves three whole working days in the two weeks, are daily becoming more willing to employ a portion of their own time for hire, which they obtain to the extent of 3 s. 4 d. to 5 s. per day, and although this division of the parish is particularly

particularly adapted for the cultivation of provisions which, more especially since the long continuance of dry weather in the low lands, where to follow this avocation is not so profitable as working for hire on the plantation, have been rendered more than ordinarily productive of benefit; yet the point of engaging the services of the apprentice has generally been gained, though not to an extent that would, if followed up, prove of great mutual advantage to the property and also apprentice, as the rates above alluded to is barely three-fifths of that paid to the master-jobber for the performance of the like quantity of work. Were task-work generally introduced, this system, so closely approximating to the state of things as they must be hereafter, might greatly be furthered; but, unfortunately, this is not likely to be case; as often does the apprentice object to leave his old track when recommended to adopt this improvement in the method of performing his duty to his master, as does the manager start local difficulties arising from causes beyond his control, whilst in other cases, general satisfaction is given to a degree that renders the parties averse to a change; thus is the task system not fairly tried in this district.

During the period at present embraced, only four persons have by purchase obtained their release from servitude, betaking themselves to their former occupations, that of domestics. Eight have been disappointed in their hopes and endeavours to become members of a perfectly free community, from the want of some specific rule to guide the proceedings of all "courts of valuation" to a fair estimate of the just amount to be paid by the apprentice for his release; where this the case, the apprentice of 1837 could obtain his discharge on terms proportionable to those of 1834, and the progressive principle of the Abolition Law would become apparent in the increased numbers claiming the privilege intended to be secured to them by the law.

It is much to be regretted that the means of education have been so scantily supplied in this, an interior district of the parish; only at each extremity a day-school is established, the one conducted and principally supported by the Rev. John Cowan, of the church of Scotland, the other under the superintendence of the Mico Charity Trustees, and from the numbers flocking to these places of instruction no doubt can exist that were such benefits more generally bestowed in other points equal advantage would be taken of such seminaries, which, when conducted by the public, appear the only means of employing or engaging the free juvenile population, who are otherwise supported by their parents in absolute idleness, disregarding in the majority of cases the offers of their respective proprietor or master to establish the means of a fair class of education on their plantations.

I have, &c.

To S. R. Warren, Esq.
Governor's Secretary.

(signed) R Sydney Lambert,
Special Magistrate.

(No. 22.)

Sir,

Spanish Town, St. Catherine, 24 July 1837.

SINCE I had last the honour of submitting to your Excellency my report of the general state of my district, very little alteration has taken place.

The apprentices are under circumstances of extreme difficulty, occasioned by the scarcity of provision from long drought, conducting themselves well, and with astonishing patience, considering that their masters do not, even at this peculiarly distressing period, allow them any assistance.

In my district the pimento crop has failed; but the coffee-trees are bearing abundantly, and promise a good return.

I have experienced much delay in proceeding under the Act for the classification of the apprentices, in consequence of their employers not having, at the time of valuation, conformed to the Abolition Law, and included in either of the two classes of prædial labourers mentioned in that law such persons only as had for 12 calendar months at least next before the 28th of August 1833 been "habitually employed" in agriculture or the manufacture of colonial produce. In many cases I find that apprentices who were not employed in agriculture or the manufacture of colonial produce at the period required by law to render them prædials have been classed as such, and sent into the field so late as August 1834, that they might serve for the long term of apprenticeship. The lists handed in by the employers have not been faithful returns; and I have been obliged to investigate into the claims of numbers lawfully entitled to their release in 1833, but up to this day, not having succeeded in convincing many of those in charge of properties of the legality of the claims of some of these persons, they remain for reference.

Aggravated assaults still continue to be committed both on male and female apprentices, and I have considered it necessary to bind the parties over to prosecute, and to send the cases to the Attorney-general; whilst, however, I regret to be compelled to make this statement, I am happy to observe, that not an instance stands recorded in the police-office of a single apprentice released from service by appraisement having abused his liberty, or used it for the purposes of licentiousness, or in the violation of the security or peace of the community. The complaints and convictions which my duties as a general as well as a special justice of the peace make me acquainted with, are all against persons who are not indebted to the abolition of slavery for their freedom.

In my last report I made the only suggestion which can, in my opinion, benefit the apprentices, namely, that the women should be all free in 1838; and I am hourly more convinced that it is the only method to be adopted for raising the free children of the negro,

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and of rendering them useful to themselves and their families, as, from the circumstance of the mothers being expected to perform their work without any consideration for the free children, great loss of life must ensue and great neglect of their physical comfort and moral improvement occur.

To his Excellency the Governor.

I have, &c.
William Ramsay, Special Justice.

(No. 23.)

Sir,

Spanish Town, 4 July 1837.

THE period having arrived when, in obedience to his Excellency's instructions, it becomes my duty to transmit a report upon the working of the apprenticeship system in this district, I have much satisfaction in being able to state, for his Excellency's information, that nothing has occurred since my last general report to alter the opinion then expressed on the subject; I felt warranted at that time in pronouncing its working as favourable as its most sanguine friends could expect, and I do so still.

The apprentices generally go about their work cheerfully, and do it well, and on by far the majority of estates, since my last report, the only complaints which have been made were for avoiding work under pretence of illness, and occasional absence on the part of individuals; even these minor offences have been comparatively unfrequent, and during the whole quarter my district has not been stained by a single crime of an atrocious nature.

With regard to the conduct of the masters towards their apprentices, it is gratifying to remark that the number of complaints from the latter against the former has undergone a diminution, and during the last three months I have not felt it necessary to impose any fine for the ill-treatment of a negro by his master or manager; indeed, in numerous instances, the conduct of the masters is marked with kindness and indulgence; and it is worthy of remark, that on properties where kindness has been shown, and where there has been nearly a total absence of punishment, the best crops have been made. On one or two estates, I regret to say, the managers still act with much strictness, if not also with severity, and are so obstinate as to be unable to perceive that treating their people well now can alone conduce to their own ultimate welfare.

The crop is fast drawing to a close, and will, I think, be equal in quantity to that of last year, though I fear it will be later in its termination, owing to the heavy rain which we have had during the last month. The present rains, though too late to benefit this year's crop, will lay the foundation of good returns for the year 1838; and I am confidently assured by several planters that the prospects for next year's crop are more flattering than they have been for several seasons back.

Captain Warren, Secretary,
The King's House.

I have, &c.
G. Ouseley Higgins.

(No. 24.)

Sir,

Chapelton, Clarendon, 5 July 1837.

I HAVE the pleasure to inform his Excellency the Governor, that the general conduct of the apprentices in this district is quiet and orderly; and I have no reason to think any bad feelings subsist between either party: the people turn out well, and perform their work cheerfully, and, generally speaking, to the satisfaction of their managers. The hours of work and relaxation vary considerably here, but in no instance have I observed a wish to exact more than the time allowed by law, viz. nine hours. On most estates the people go to work about six o'clock, A. M., and have one hour allowed them for breakfast; at about one o'clock, P. M., they get two hours for dinner; after which they work till six o'clock, P. M., making nine working hours. Task-work is not general in this district, but there are many instances in which it has been performed to the satisfaction of both parties. The apprentices are anxious to work for hire, and during the crop it has been almost universal, when the general remuneration given the people was, for eight hours extra work in the boiling-house, or about the works, 6*d.* sterling, together with indulgences, such as rum, sugar, &c. An able-bodied labourer can easily earn, in a day of his own time, by digging cane-holes, the sum of 2*s.* sterling, and frequently 3*s.* In almost every instance that has come within my knowledge, all the indulgences formerly usual have been continued.

The state of the free children, I regret to say, is neither what could be wished nor expected, and they are often neglected by their parents, who are their only support; it is also much to be feared the state of total idleness, in which the greater part are living, will be the means of sowing the seeds of future misery to themselves and others; but had they the means of education (which the great majority have not), their parents would, I feel assured, be glad. The attendance at the parochial school at Chapelton is very full and regular, and the church is also well attended.

The people do not appear to be desirous of purchasing their freedom; only two cases having been completed during the last three months. The prospects of the ensuing crop are

are very good; and I have reason to think the estates are now in much better order than they were at this period last year.

Chas. H. Darling, Esq., &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) Philip O'Reilly,
Special Justice.

(No. 25.)

Sir,

Clarendon, Upper District, 3 July 1837.

It is with very great satisfaction that I am again enabled to bear testimony of the orderly and good conduct of the apprentices in this district, and also of the uninterrupted good feeling which exists between them and their employers.

That there are solitary instances of neglect of duty cannot be denied, but the greatest proof that can be adduced that the majority are working willingly, is the fact that for the last five months not a single gang has been brought before me to answer a charge of insufficiency of labour.

Nine hours per diem is the system at present universally adopted in this parish, with the usual relaxation of one hour for breakfast and two for dinner. This arrangement will necessarily be changed, as soon as taskwork becomes generally resorted to.

There is very little difficulty in getting extra labour for wages during crop-time at the rate of 10*d.* for a spell of eight hours, with every indulgence of former times; but I have never known of a gang tendering their services on a Saturday for money; it would be impossible for them to do so at the present moment, their provision grounds having suffered much from the late severe drought.

It is with much reluctance that I am again obliged to call his Excellency's attention to the moral condition of the free children; this evil is mainly to be attributed to the apathy shown by the mothers, and to the scarcity of places for religious instruction in the district. I must here however observe, that the school at Leicesterfields estate (a branch of the Jamaica national) is very well attended both by the adults and young children.

There is a very limited desire among the apprentices to purchase their discharge, only two valuations having taken place since my last report; and I am at present unable to give any information as to what employment the liberated persons generally betake themselves to.

In closing this report, I am sorry to have to admit a very great evil, which is daily gaining ground, viz., plundering of produce sent down by waggons to the wharves; this can never put a stop to, so long as there are so many needy purchasers of the stolen goods.

C. H. Darling, Esq., &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) Geo. Gordon,
Special Justice.

(No. 26.)

SPECIAL MAGISTRATE'S REPORT of the District of *Lower Clarendon*, 10th July 1837.

IN furnishing a report of the district little can be said varying from that of last quarter. The apprentices are in general working well, and complaints are confined principally to neglect of watch and running away.

There are only two circumstances which require notice. First, the great increase of thefts of a more daring description, viz. the stealing of sheep, and the breaking open of private stores. This may in part be attributed to the scarcity of all kinds of ground provisions, occasioned partly by the apprentices having neglected the cultivation of their grounds, and by the long continuance of dry weather. The negroes are at present almost in a starving condition, and feed chiefly on mangoes. The yams will shortly come to maturity, which in a great measure, it is to be hoped, will cause a decrease of crime. One thing is certain, that the moral and physical condition of the negro are greatly improved. He does not now consider himself that degraded being he did in the time of slavery, and is wonderfully improved in appearance and health. The latter is evident from the estates' hospitals not being filled with people suffering under severe sores and other complaints as formerly.

The second circumstance to be mentioned is relative to the valuation of apprentices. There is a great desire evinced by some of the overseers to put an enormous value upon the services of those who wish to obtain their freedom. Twelve have purchased their discharge since my last report. These are nearly all confined to domestics, and young boys and girls, the children being purchased by their parents for the purpose of having them educated, or brought up to some trade. Few, if any, turn their attention to agricultural pursuits.

In conclusion it affords me much gratification to report that the prospect, both for a good sugar and coffee crop, is very flattering.

Jas. Kennet Dawson,
Special Justice.

(No. 27.)

Sir,

St. James's, 3 June 1837.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, the following quarterly district report.

Some sugar estates in my district will, in my opinion, as well as in that of the parties resident thereon, exceed last year's crop, while others will fall off a little from last year; accountable for by the long drought at the beginning of the year, which has of course checked the growth of the last cut canes, and spring plants of last year, from which the planters expect very great returns, which of course will be materially lessened. The produce in general is equal to that of former years, and the crops are forward.

The apprentices in my district are, I am happy to say, generally contented and happy, cheerfully performing their duty to the master, and working in their own time for liberal wages.

I have also to mention the very great scarcity of provisions, which can be accounted for by the great drought, and especially to the shameful manner in which the grounds have been lately neglected by the apprentices in consequence of their preferring to work for wages.

S. R. Warren, Esq. &c. &c.
Governor's Secretary, King's House.

I have, &c.

R. Cockins, S. M.

(No. 28.)

REPORT by Special Justice *Carnaby*, on the State of his District, in the Parish of *St. James's*, for the Quarter ending 30th June 1837.

Montego Bay, 11 July 1837.

THIS district continues most orderly, and the apprentices perform their work well. Generally a good feeling prevails between them and their masters.

The crop is now completed, and it gives me great pleasure to refer to the annexed state of this and last year's produce, as completely verifying my former reports, as to an increase this season. This state shows an addition of 468 hogsheads of sugar upon the 17 estates in my district, being more than one-fourth upon last year's crop. The rum has increased in proportion.

The hours of labour are nine daily.

Voluntary task-work, when properly explained to the apprentices, and fairly dealt out, is adopted with success.

The apprentices are now more inclined to labour in their own time for hire, which runs from 2s. 6d. to 3s. 4d. per day.

The greater number of the attorneys give many of the old allowances; and this year Mr. George Gordon (whose liberality to all under him I have had occasion to notice in former reports) has served out additional allowances, being so satisfied of the work performed by the apprentices, and of their general good behaviour.

The church accommodation scarcely meets the daily increasing numbers who regularly attend divine worship; but it is pleasant to observe the exertions now making to supply the deficiencies.

The free children continue a burden on their parents, who appear to do all they can to educate them.

The valuations increase, but principally among the non-prædials, the term being now short, and their annual value reasonable. With me this quarter valuations have decreased. I cannot tell how the apprentices employ themselves after purchasing their freedom.

The appearances for next crop are favourable, and notwithstanding the gratifying increase in my district this year, I am of opinion, that if no unforeseen calamity in the seasons occur, that the ensuing return will equal, if not exceed, that now taken of the ground.

It is proper I should mention, in conclusion, that about six weeks ago, two or three evil-disposed persons resident in the interior of this parish, raised and circulated a report that the apprentices in their neighbourhood were disaffected, and that they had noticed symptoms of an attempt to create disturbance. But those charges, when investigated by the authorities, turned out wholly groundless, and the subsequent quiet state of *St. James's* and the adjoining parishes completely prove them so.

Wm. Carnaby,
Special Justice.

(No. 29.)

STATE of the Produce of 17 Properties, being the Number of Sugar Estates in the District of Special Justice *Carnaby*, in the Parish of *St. James*.—Crops, 1836 and 1837.

No.	ESTATES.	CROP, 1836.		CROP, 1837.	
		Hogsheads of Sugar.	Tierces of Sugar.	Hogsheads of Sugar.	Tierces of Sugar.
1	Belfield - - - - -	66	- -	106	
2	Bague - - - - -	48	- -	75	
3	Catherine Hall - - - - -	83	- -	140	
4	Catherine Mount - - - - -	69	- -	105	
5	Friendship - - - - -	28	- -	46	
6	Fairfield - - - - -	134	- -	184	
7	GUILSBRO' - - - - -	104	2	104	1
8	Irwin - - - - -	133	- -	179	
9	Leitrim and Purling Stream - - - - -	279 tons, net wght.	- -	301 tons, net wght.	
10	Leyden - - - - -	107	21	169	21
11	Orange - - - - -	- -	57	- -	48
12	Potosi - - - - -	- -	50	- -	45
13	Retirement - - - - -	165	- -	185	
14	Spring Garden - - - - -	59	20	79	20
15	Unity Hall - - - - -	81	- -	134	
16	Williamsfield - - - - -	77	10	108	12
17	Worcester - - - - -	60	- -	55	
		1,493	160	1,970	147
	160 Tierces, equal to - - - - -	107	- -	- -	
	147 Tierces, equal to - - - - -	- -	- -	98	
	Crop, 1836 - - - - -	1,600	Crop, 1837 }	2,068	

ABSTRACT.

	Hogsheads.
CROP, 1837 - - - - -	2,068
CROP, 1836 - - - - -	1,600
Increase of Hogsheads in Crop 1837 -	468

Note.—The rum has increased in proportion.

Montego Bay, St. James's, 11 July 1837.

The preceding state referred to in my report to his Excellency Sir Lionel Smith, of this date.

William Carnaby,
Special Justice.

(No. 30.)

WESTERN INTERIOR DISTRICT, comprising Parts of the Parishes of *St. James*, *Hanover*, and *Westmorland*.

Sir,

11 July 1837.

I HAVE the honour to state, that, since making my report on the first of April, the peace of the district has been uninterrupted, the apprenticed labourers, with trifling exception, continuing to conduct themselves in an exemplary manner.

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It is to be regretted, under such circumstances, that on some estates there is an absence of kindly feeling between manager and apprentice. This I conceive to be, in a great measure, attributable to the conduct of the former, who, upon frivolous occasions, withhold the salt fish allowed by the proprietors, and in other ways demean themselves in an arbitrary manner towards the people, without at the same time infringing on the letter of the law.

Working by the task, and also for money wages, in their own time, is not unusual amongst the apprentices; but it is more particularly practised on those estates where they are kindly and liberally treated.

The moral condition of the free children is a subject on which the planters in this district seem never to have bestowed any consideration; and I feel that I am correct in stating, that not an individual amongst them, with the exception of Mr. George Gordon, attorney for Mr. Malcolm's extensive properties, of whose name I have had, on more than one occasion, to make honourable mention, has, up to the present moment, made any effort to rescue this interesting portion of the population from vice and ignorance. Through his exertions, aided by the zealous labours of the Church, Baptist, and Methodist missionaries, two day-schools and two Sunday-schools have been established, all of which I believe to be well attended. For their physical support and comfort, the free children are, I am inclined to believe, principally dependent on their parents.

Valuations are not on the increase; but I do not attribute this circumstance to any disinclination, on the part of the apprentices, to purchase their freedom; they are, in my opinion, deterred from doing so owing to the excessive value at which, it is well known, managers generally estimate their services, and to the facility which they possess, as contrasted with the apprentices, in obtaining testimony to support their views.

The crop has now been brought to a conclusion. On some sugar estates there has been an increase of produce, as contrasted with last year; to what extent I have not been able precisely to ascertain; I would, however, instance the following:—Chester Castle estate, which has terminated crop by making 150 hogsheads of sugar, being an increase of 50 on the last year; Copse, the most considerable property in the district, upon which the large amount of 330 hogsheads have been manufactured; Wiltshire has also had, I believe, an augmentation of 10 hogsheads. On those estates where a defalcation, to any extent, has resulted, I believe it to be attributable, in most instances, to bad management.

From the preparations which are being made for the ensuing crop, I have every reason to think that, should the seasons prove favourable, a considerable increase of produce will be the result.

In conclusion, I regret to add, that I have experienced, for some months, a disposition, on the part of certain managers in this district, to insult, harass, and misrepresent me when engaged in the discharge of my duties as a special magistrate; and that I have been unwillingly obliged, in many instances, to require the attendance of police, in order to ensure that decorum which elsewhere characterises a court of justice.

C. H. Darling, Esq., Government Secretary.

I have, &c.

John Odell.

(No. 31.)

Sir,

Montego Bay, 3 July 1837.

I FEEL very great pleasure in having it in my power to report, that the apprentices in this district continue to labour cheerfully in their master's time, and willingly in their own, for money.

It will be gratifying also to his Excellency to learn that the crop has been taken off the ground much earlier than usual, the quality improved, and yielding a considerable increase over that of the preceding year.

There is a much larger supply of plants put in this season than usual, for which considerable apprehension was for some time entertained, on account of the excessive dry weather; but I am happy to add, that the recent refreshing showers have rapidly effected a change in the appearance of the fields, and in all probability the ensuing crop will yield a greater return than the present.

The desire to purchase the unexpired term of apprenticeship appears to have increased, having applied for their discharge since my last return; but what becomes of them after, or to what description of labour they betake themselves, I really cannot say.

With respect to the means employed for the extension of religion and education, I may be permitted to observe, that efforts of this description cannot be expected to succeed without considerable expense; the funds available for that purpose have not been adequate to the demand; but it is confidently hoped that the increased exertions about to be made will not be backward in supplying, at no very distant period, the means of extending such a desirable object.

I have, &c.

(signed) *R. B. Facey*, Special Justice.

To Charles Henry Darling, Esq.,
Governor's Secretary, &c. &c.

(No. 32.)

REPORT of the STATE of Special Justice *Finlayson's* District, in the Parish of *St. James*, for the Quarter ending 30th June 1837.

IN general there has been a good feeling between the employers and the apprentices; though there have been exceptions upon two or three estates, where unnecessary harshness is adopted. The number of complaints is nearly the same with the last quarter. The apprentices have been performing their work willingly.

The working hours are fixed at nine daily.

Task-work is not generally adopted in the district; though where reasonable tasks are exacted, the apprentices readily accede to them.

Where adequate wages are offered, the apprentices work in their own time without hesitation; and where they do not get employment from their own masters, they apply for it on neighbouring properties. The wages usually given for Fridays and Saturdays are from 2s. 6d. to 3s. 4d. per day.

Some estates withheld the former supplies of salt-fish to the apprentices; and others have altogether withdrawn or limited the number of cooks, nurses, and watchmen to provision grounds.

The condition of the free children is in general bad, as they are burdens almost entirely upon their mothers, receiving no support from the estates, and only getting medical care in a few instances, unless when paid for.

The attendance of the apprentices, both at church and at schools, is fully equal to the accommodation; and it is gratifying to report, that great exertions are making to provide additional accommodation.

There is a very general desire among the apprentices to purchase their freedom, and the number of applications is increasing materially. During this quarter there have been 32 valuations, of which 24 have been paid.

Owing to the long period of dry weather in the early part of this quarter, the canes (especially on the sea-side estates) have not yielded so well as had been calculated upon; but the recent rains have materially improved the appearance of the plants for the ensuing crop.

Some vague rumours of dissatisfaction and apprehended disturbances were for some time in circulation in the parish. In this district, however, there was no cause for suspicion, as the apprentices have long been conducting themselves with much propriety.

1 July 1837.

(signed) *Walter Finlayson*, Special Justice.

(No. 33.)

Sir,

Maroon Town, St. James's, 30 June 1837.

I HAVE the honour to forward my quarterly report, agreeably to his Excellency's circular, as usual.

1st. Since my last report, the apprentices in my district have been industrious and quiet.

2d. In general, good feeling exists between the apprentices and their employers.

3d. With a few exceptions, they perform their work willingly.

4th. The nine-hour system is general, and the intervals of relaxation are, an hour for breakfast, and two hours for dinner.

5th. Task-work is generally resorted to.

6th. It is the custom in this district for apprentices to dig cane-holes, in their own time, at 3s. 4d. per 90 holes; and to work continually during crop time from 15 or 16 hours per day, at the rate of 1½d. for their extra hours.

7th. The usual indulgences during slavery are in general not withheld.

8th. Parents are very unwilling to have their free children placed under the control of their masters.

9th. A school exists for the education of children, and a place of worship is about to be built.

10th. Six valuations have taken place during this quarter, but have not yet been paid.

11th. It is out of my power to say how the apprentices employ themselves after their discharge.

12th. The crop in this district has averaged more than last season, and the prospects of the ensuing crop are more favourable.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. M. Crockett*, Special Justice.

C. H. Darling, Esq.,
Governor's Secretary, the King's House.

(No. 34.)

Sir,

Central District, Trelawny, 30 June 1837.

MY very recent removal to this district, and the still more recent arrangements by which many extensive plantations, have been now only some few weeks committed to my magisterial charge,

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charge, render it necessary, in justice to myself and in justice to those persons on whose conduct it is my duty to comment, to confine my report, to a mere statement of those circumstances which, from their prominence, have most attracted my attention.

On all my first visits to properties, without an exception, I heard from the overseers the most flattering statements of the general good conduct, industry, and contentedness of the apprentices, and was in many instances most triumphantly referred to the record of offences tried before the special magistrates on the estates, as proof of the paucity, and in some instances total absence of offences for a very considerable length of time. The experience I had had in another parish, and the observations I had painfully made during a period of three years of anxious watchfulness of the degrading influence of slavery upon all classes, made me receive these florid accounts of a peasantry labouring without remuneration, with much caution and suspicion, though I need not say how much I should have been delighted could I have believed and found them true. A very short time would have sufficed, had I been sanguine enough to have indulged in the belief of that comparatively happy and judiciously amalgamated state of society, which only time, aided by the equal administration of beneficent laws, and the spread of religion and morality can induce, to have dispelled the illusion. I learned full soon the reason why the special magistrate's interposition was so little needed by the managers, and why his aid was so rarely invoked by the apprentices. The estate's cells were the universal panacea for the adult, and pomegranate switches for the juvenile; an unlimited appliance of which had produced that sullen quietude which had been so vauntingly described to me as the tranquil cheerfulness of contented labour. The unlimited exercise of this tremendous power (confinement in the estate's dungeon for 24 hours) for any offence or alleged offence, had rendered frequent appeals on the part of the managers to the special justice unnecessary; and as the people were aware this injustice was perpetrated, unprohibited by the special justices, they were not so insane as to make fruitless complaints to them. I have laboured by conciliatory means to restore the labouring population to a condition more nearly resembling freedom. I adopted this course with the managers in preference to a coercive one, as the greatest share of blame was more justly attributable to the administrators of the law, who had permitted the existence of so oppressive a system.

I have explained to all the overseers the utter variance of the exercise of such or any coercive power with the express words of the 21st clause of the Island Abolition Act, and have endeavoured to remove the misconception of the power which overseers in general fancy they legally possess, from the permission given to the constables to confine for any offence by the 39th clause of the same Act; which I have assured them conveys only such and no greater authority to imprison than that which is possessed by constables appointed in the usual way to preserve the peace of towns and districts, and for the apprehension of felons, &c. I have explained, that as the apprenticed labourers in rural districts form distinct communities under the operation of peculiar laws and a peculiar magistracy, apprenticed constables were necessary to assist in carrying those laws into effect, in the same degree as parochial constables are necessary to assist the general magistracy; and that instead of intending to arm the managers of estates with a power inconsistent with freedom, the tenderness and jealousy with which the Legislature regarded incroachments on the liberty of the subject was evinced in the permission given in the same clause to release, if within 24 hours the attendance of a magistrate could not be procured; a power not possessed by ordinary constables, but in the case of people whose offences could only be tried by a peculiar body of magistrates, not always within summons, rendered necessary, to prevent injustice by protracted confinement previous to trial. Those who have acted on my advice and desisted, I have not fined; one who persisted, I have.

The next grievance which was obtruded on my notice, was the very general fraud practised upon the people in the regulation of the hours of labour. During the short days, to enable the managers to get nine hours of labour daily, they allowed half an hour for breakfast, and one hour and a half for dinner, commencing at 6 A.M. and terminating at 6 P.M., which was perfectly correct and proper; but now at this season of the year, when the days are 14 hours long, I found they were only allowing the same respite for meals as in the short days, and in many instances beginning work at a quarter to 6 A.M., and not leaving off until a quarter to 7 P.M.; thus exacting from 10 to 11 hours during four days, and drawing off at midday on Friday, which would give an additional hour, making, during the week on some properties 49 hours, and on others 45, without remuneration, and with the ostensible pretence of only working 40 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours weekly.

This fact has frequently come under my notice, both from the complaint of the people and from my own observation; but from the difficulty of legal proof, few of the apprentices having watches, and the variety of evasions by which the manager can escape conviction, it will be only by a systematic and vigilant watchfulness that an evil of so much magnitude can be repressed.

Another source of grievous oppression, several instances of which have been brought to my notice by complaint, is that of non-prædial apprentices, who being in domestic employment during slavery, have been within the last two or three years constrained to perform the more profitable labour of the field. So that, short as my residence in Trelawny has been, I have seen more within the time of gross and serious infractions of the ameliorative provisions of the Abolition Act, than usually occurred in the space of 12 months in the district from which I have lately been removed.

The patience with which so much of wrong has been endured, and the industry which has at the same time been exhibited by the labouring population, has more convincingly than the utmost eloquence of words, proved that the praise the managers have bestowed on them to me was, whether sincerely spoken or not, most richly deserved.

I have,

I have, I trust, succeeded in putting an end to the system of incarceration in cells, and assault by constables, and yet I have not had a single complaint of indolence against a gang, and remarkably few complaints by managers against individuals; and I feel the most perfect confidence, that with the support I am sure to receive from the executive, I shall in a very short time be able to see the benevolent law for the abolition of slavery fairly, fully, and beneficially in operation, to the great increase of the mutual advantages of master and apprentices. In this hope and expectation, I am encouraged by the gratifying exceptions to the general management and treatment of apprentices exhibited on the estates in this district, the property of Henry Shirley, esq., and Edmund M. B. Barrett, esq. Mr. Shirley, aware that without a longer duration of labour than the legal hours, he could not continue the manufacture of sugar to the extent he required, honestly and fairly contracted with his apprentices for 10 hours in the field during the whole year, and as honestly and fairly pays them for it; while others in the same neighbourhood, as I have before observed, are exacting the same time without acknowledgment. The proprietor of Oxford and Cambridge estates, Mr. Barrett, from all I have witnessed on those properties, and from what I have learned of the anxiety he feels, and the means he adopts for the improvement of the condition, and the promotion of the comfort of his people, must be a man of singular and rare benevolence, and it affords me more real pleasure than I can express in being enabled to bear testimony to his good fortune in the selection of an agent in Matthew Farquharson, esq., whose religious principles and natural benevolence predispose him to carry into their fullest effect the humane and generous designs of Mr. Barrett.

The parish has the peculiar good fortune to be blessed with a greater number of active and enterprising missionaries than I believe any other in the island. There are four Baptist, three Methodist, two Scotch, and one Independent, all of whom have large apprentice congregations, and over whom they have happily acquired an influence that is to me the strongest assurance of the permanence of those habits of industry and general good conduct which so remarkably characterize the apprenticed population of this district, and which makes them so patiently submit to infringements on their time and privileges. His Excellency will be enabled to form some idea of the fervency of their zeal for religion, by the fact of the enormous sum of 900*l.* being subscribed principally by the apprentices of this and the adjoining districts on the opening of the Rev. Mr. Knibb's Baptist chapel at Falmouth in April last.

I have, &c.

— Warren, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *Edmund B. Lyon*, Special Justice.

(No. 35.)

Sir,

Trelawny, Jamaica, 30 June 1837.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that the tranquillity of this populous district remains undisturbed.

There have been but very few complaints against the manager, nor have there been many against the apprentices during this quarter, consequently punishments are much diminished; but I regret to inform his Excellency that the complaints amongst themselves are numerous and very continuous, viz. petty thefts, quarrels, and the plunder of each other's provision grounds, which has doubtless been greatly augmented from the scarcity of provisions, arising, I very humbly submit, principally from the late extreme drought and series of dry years.

I have much pleasure in reporting to his Excellency that the sugar crops are closing tolerably satisfactorily.

In this district there are 35 sugar estates, of which one-third will exceed last year's crop, one other third will yield about the same, and the remaining third will fall something short of last year's returns; but the quantity of the sugar is good everywhere.

I am happy to be able to report to his Excellency that we have been blessed with fine rains since the 10th May, and that there is every appearance of their continuance, so that the prospects generally are very flattering for next year's returns. The rapidity of vegetation and the altered face of the country is pleasingly astonishing, and the exertions of all parties interested is manifest all round this district in the expectancy of good crops.

The apprentices are employed and work cheerfully in their own time for money; and it affords me much satisfaction to report to his Excellency that several of the planters are exercising a liberal and wise policy towards their apprentices by kind encouragement and good treatment.

Several managers are aware that the probationary state applies equally to themselves, as to the apprentices, and are looking forward to the ultimate interests of both parties, which, I humbly submit to his Excellency, it would not only be difficult but unwise to separate.

Additional grants of home grounds have been recently made to the apprentices on the Tharp's estates, also on Cambridge, Hampstead, Retreat, and Schawfield, and I doubt not so valuable and praiseworthy an example will shortly be followed by all the other properties in the beat, and will doubtless be attended by the most happy results, present and ultimate, by both the proprietor and apprentice, by precluding the diabolical practice of

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petty plunder of canes and provisions, arising from the drought, distant mountain grounds, and general scarcity of food.

Assuring his Excellency of my continued and best exertions in the service,

I have, &c.

To C. H. Darling, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) S. Pryce, Special Justice.

(No. 36.)

Sir,

Falmouth, Trelawny, 3 July 1837.

I HAVE the honour to furnish his Excellency the Governor with the periodical report of the state of my district; and it is with the utmost satisfaction I find myself enabled to say, that the general conduct of the apprentices in the Falmouth district is most peaceable and orderly, every good feeling appearing to exist between themselves and their employers. They perform their work willingly on the whole; and work in general on the nine hour system of labour. Task-work I have heard very little of of late (crop time), and where not resorted to, the fault is on the part of the apprentice, who is ever suspicious (on occasions of this kind) of some sinister motive actuating the offer of his master to him. Where the apprentices work for money wages, they are paid on the average of 2*d.* or 2½*d.* per hour, I may fairly say the latter; and their payment is generally on the Friday, P. M.

Some of the former indulgences are withheld, and those unavoidably, I am given to understand, from the poverty of the estate; but the staple commodity and boon of fish is freely and liberally dispensed, generally, nay, next to, everywhere.

The condition of the free children, the special magistrate has but little opportunity of judging of, so tenacious are the mothers of affording opportunity; but I firmly believe their condition would be moving, but for the support and maintenance afforded the child, and the indulgence as to time, &c., &c. extended to the mother: and yet, withal, they are the most ungrateful and the most troublesome class of apprentices on the estates, unless we class the "belly-women" with them; in truth, just as bad, troublesome, and difficult to manage.

Facilities for education and religious instruction abound, and I believe the attendance at each equals the accommodation.

Valuation cases fluctuate much, and those in my last quarter are few, comparatively to former quarters. Tradesmen, house servants, and housekeepers appear the advocates for "discharge," and they usually betake themselves to their accustomed trades elsewhere; changing masters being quite a mania among them. Thank God, the prospect of the ensuing crop is, or is reputed proverbially in this district to be, the best ever known, and cultivation is far ahead everywhere, the seasons having been the best that could have blest the land.

Having nothing of moment further worthy of communicating to his Excellency,

I have, &c.

(signed) Jos. Rawlins Thomas,
Lt. R. N., Special Justice.

To C. H. Darling, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

(No. 37.)

IN compliance with his Excellency's Circular of the 23d September, No. 63, directing Special Justices to send a quarterly report of the state in their districts, I have enclosed answers to the questions ordered.

Answer 1. The apprentices, since my last report, have behaved themselves well, orderly and peaceably.

2. On most of the properties the feelings between master and apprentice are kind on the master's part, and obedient on the apprentice's.

3. The apprentices are performing their work willingly and cheerfully; the crop is taken off the ground as well as it ever was, the apprentices are working in their own time, and the estates have been making good week's work before the rain set in, which has thrown them back.

4. The hours of working in this district is the nine hours system; those in the boiling-house and mill-house work extra hours, for which they are paid; and the gangs of cane-cutters are paid for their own Fridays, so that no days are to be given after crop.

5. Task-work is only made use of in crop time, and is either agreed to before the special justice or between themselves and masters. No task-work can be compelled by the 50th clause of the Abolition Law; digging of cane-holes is generally performed by apprentices in their own time, and are paid from 3*s.* 4*d.* to 4*s.* 2*d.* a hundred holes.

6. The apprentices in this district are most eager to work for hire, with the exception of Brace Estate; the wages given is, viz. head people, 2*s.* 6*d.*; boiler men, 1*s.* 8*d.*; mill-house, 1*s.* 8*d.*; cane-carriers, 1*s.* 8*d.*; dry trash carriers, 1*s.* 3*d.*; boys, 10*d.*; and cane-cutters on their own Fridays, 2*s.* 6*d.*; great gang, 2*s.*, second gang, 1*s.* 8*d.* per day.

7. Indulgences, which were given in during the Slave Law, are withheld on some estates, and I have always found that on those estates where they have been so, the properties are not so far forward, nor do the apprentices work so well, and invariably have most complaints.

8. I consider the free children in a most wretched condition, as it is optional with the overseers to allow them in the hot-house when sick, or the medical attendant to prescribe for them. They are not brought up to industry in any way; although their mothers cannot be hindered from attending them when sick, they are invariably required to repay back the time so lost to the estate.

9. The facilities for the education of the free children in this parish are but few (public), one at Bird Burne, and one at the First Hill, under the Rev. Mr. Vine. There is much want of some public schools in my district. The attendance at places of Divine worship is most exemplary in this district; and on the completion of the present places of worship, there will be sufficient accommodation for the population, there being seven places of worship in my district.

10. Of late there have not been many applications for purchasing the freedom of apprentices; I have only received money for two since my last return.

11. I cannot inform you in what way those have employed themselves who have purchased their discharge, being females and house-servants.

12. The prospects for the ensuing crop at present is most luxuriant; the canes, from the very fine rains, are springing up quick, and promise a good return next year; the general cultivation is extending, and an average crop may be expected from the present prospect. The season has been most favourable this quarter.

13. None.

C. Hawkins, Special Justice.

(No. 38.)

Sir,

Spanish Town, 1 July 1837.

IN obedience to the Circular, No. 63, I enclose the customary quarterly report, for the information of his Excellency, and of his Lordship the Secretary for the Colonies. So little alteration in any respect has taken place since my last, in which I replied *seriatim* to the questions proposed in the communication from the Colonial Office of the 15th July 1836, that I now refer to it for a view of the present state of the district intrusted to my charge. I should feel happy in being enabled to report a change for the better in the relative positions of master and apprentice, and that the reciprocal dissatisfaction then existing between them had softened down into feelings of a kindlier nature. The three first years, the moiety of the apprenticeship most available for the purposes of conciliation and persuasion, and for gaining the good will of the negro, of all ends that most essential alike to the interest of the proprietary and to the future condition of the labouring population, to the prosperity of the colony, and to the mode of its relations hereafter to the mother country, have passed over in this colony in bickering, recrimination, and animosity, which, there is too just reason for apprehending, that the remaining half of the term will prove too short to remedy or to counteract. I regret to have observed that the indefensible and unseemly practice of chaining females by the neck, when in the infirmaries of the houses of correction, still exists, notwithstanding the severe reprehension with which, on my representation to Government, it was visited in the parish of St. John. Mr. Special Justice Ramsay, Dr. Tabois, and myself, on a casual visit some weeks since to the house of correction in this town, found three females thus chained in the hospital of that institution.

Several questions, proposed by Mr. Hovey, the agent of a society in the United States, having for its objects the extinction of slavery and the amelioration and improvement of the black and coloured population, were lately placed in my hands. In my replies, which constant occupation in the course of my duty has necessarily rendered brief, I had to give a cursory glance at the existing state of this island, as it depends on, or is connected with, the abolition of slavery. These questions resembling in some measure those forwarded from the Colonial Office, the replies affording a succinct, and I believe a correct, view of the actual state of things in this country, and certain observations contained in them, which refer prospectively to the most advisable mode of effecting the abolition of slavery in the United States, being equally applicable and capable of being made available to the progress of the apprenticeship system in Jamaica, I shall take the liberty of copying them, placing the questions and replies in juxtaposition, for the information of his Lordship the Secretary for the Colonies:

1. Is there an increasing confidence among the people in the stability of the present course of things?—By the expression, “present state of things,” does Mr. Hovey allude to the apprenticeship? If he do, it is clear that, being an intermediate state between slavery and freedom, a period simply of transition and preparation, it can in nowise be said to possess stability. If Mr. Hovey’s meaning extend generally to the measure in progress, and to the great end to be attained by the elevation of a large portion of the family of man from the most pitiable and degrading state of slavery recorded in the annals of history to the condition of freemen, there can be no doubt that the experiment has not only been attended with complete success already, but that its effects also will be lasting and stable.

2. Do the apprentices work as well under the present system as they did under the former?—I have great satisfaction in informing Mr. Hovey that the apprentices perform as much work in a given time at present as they did formerly; that I perceive a considerable amelioration in their social condition, consequent on advancing civilization. I can add, that where well treated, they are tractable and docile; and that were the general conduct of their masters kinder and more conciliatory towards them, they would be contented as well as industrious.

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3. Do they perform much extra labour for hire?—As regards the performance of extra work for hire, they consult their own convenience, as freemen should do. Some sell their time, and afford to their employer an adequate proportion of labour; others prefer using their extra hours in the cultivation of their provision-grounds, and the sale of the produce in the market.

4. Is an increasing desire for knowledge and instruction apparent among them, and if so, in what way?—An increasing desire for knowledge and improvement is apparent among them; it manifests itself now in the general acceptance of the truths of Christianity, in the enlarged attendance on places of public worship, in the increasing attention to personal decency and comfort in their apparel and houses, and in the signally intelligent questions which they often put, on a variety of subjects, to those who have inclination or leisure to converse with them.

5. Has the amount of labour in the island diminished since 1834; and if so, how does it appear?—I have not time sufficient at my disposal to follow this question through all the details which a complete view of the objects that it embraces would lead to; I shall simply observe, that the general amount of labour performed in the island has not diminished since 1834. The exports have necessarily declined with the disuse of the hideous and abominable system which drove the slave to the field before daylight and kept him there, with little intermission, until night supervening, rendered the continuation of his task a matter of impossibility; a system which often kept the negro, when employed in the manufacture of sugar, on continuous labour for six days and as many nights, during which time the only intervals he could devote to rest were snatched by stealth from the vigilant eye of an overseer, and liable to be rudely interrupted by the lash of his inhuman taskmaster; a system under which, before the abolition of the slave-trade, the negro was worked like the horse or the steer until he dropped under his burthen, and when it was held more profitable and planter-like to purchase a new slave than to incur the expense and trouble of patching up the worn-out constitution of some unhappy wretch diseased or disabled by cruel treatment, or by compulsory exertions beyond his strength. From these and similar causes, the quantity of agricultural labour expended on exportable commodities has necessarily decreased in amount; but the sum-total of labour performed in the island has not at all diminished. It seems to be an undeviating rule of nature that all atrocious violations of her laws defeat the end which they are meant to attain. The negro, it is true, then died under the load or under the lash; but though his master had the power to stay him, he had not that of making him work willingly, or even adequately, when removed from his immediate inspection. Such part of his extra time as the negro can now spare, without infringing on that claimed by nature for repose, is devoted to his immediate profit and convenience; and it is needless to say that one hour of voluntary is worth two of compulsory labour. Hence the aggregate of the work effected in the island has not decreased; the labour is merely diverted into other channels. A reference to the returns of the custom-house will show that, whilst exports have fallen off, imports have considerably increased. The negro, in fact, now certainly does less for his master, but vastly more for himself. The course which industry has taken daily develops new resources, creates fresh wants, improves the condition of the people (by the people I mean the labouring population of Jamaica), and increases the market for the staples and manufactures of the mother country, without injuring the revenues of the colony.

6. What is the prospect as to the education and industry of the children of the apprentices; do planters as well as parents, encourage their education?—The clergy of the Established Church, to a certain degree, and the sectarian ministers more effectually, have exerted themselves for the philanthropic object of affording the means and opportunity of education to the children of apprentices; still the success is incalculably short of the occasion. There are not adequate means of instruction for a twentieth part of the labouring population. The planters in general are either indifferent or hostile to the moral progress and amelioration of the negro; and the parents are not themselves sufficiently acquainted with the blessings and advantages of proper instruction to appreciate its blessings for the children.

7. Has the introduction of the new system had any perceptible effect on the enterprize and prosperity of the island, and especially upon the value of property?—Again, as I observed in reply to No. 5, I have not time to go into a lengthened statistic detail, and must confine my remarks to facts that Mr. Hovey's own experience will probably have made him acquainted with. The new system has had an effect on the enterprize and prosperity of the island, totally unanticipated by the most sanguine at its commencement. New towns have been founded in various parts of the country; and in the old, new houses are springing up on all sides. Institutions, unthought of in the days of slavery, are established for agricultural and scientific purposes. Land daily increases in value, and the labour of apprentices, considered as property, has brought, and is bringing in, for the six years of the apprenticeship, a sum equal to three times the whole life value of the slave, as appraised by commissioned valuers in 1834. I sent the subjoined calculation on the subject, about three months since, to England.

8. What are the present inconveniences which have resulted from the change, and how have they been obviated?—Limiting myself to the terms of the question, I state with much satisfaction that the inconveniences which have resulted from the change, are of too insignificant a nature to be of any consideration as a set-off against the vast increase of human happiness which it has occasioned, and the social and moral amelioration of the many millions of our fellow-creatures existing, and to exist. The planter has even been compensated for the reduced quantity of produce exported, by a more than corresponding rise in its price. Perhaps the inconvenience most sensibly felt at present, in the operation of the new system, is the very general and mutual feeling of dislike and ill-will existing between the apprentice and

and his master. At the expiration of the term few of the labourers, I am inclined to think, will afford their services to the persons at present entitled to them by law. This feeling has doubtlessly originated in a splenetic and exasperated feeling on the part of the planter, who, compelled to emancipate his slaves, for what he maintained at the time,—though the result has shown that he has received value in amount greatly beyond the most exaggerated estimate of the property relinquished,—to be an insufficient consideration, showed too generally on the change of condition, with the short-sighted policy of endeavouring to thwart or defeat the beneficial measures of the mother country, a perverse disposition to harass and oppress the apprentices, withholding from him every assistance and indulgence, though customary in the days of slavery, which the strictest interpretation of the statute would bear out; rigidly exacting the whole law from him; showing him, even when merited by good conduct and faithful service, neither countenance nor protection; dragging him before the special justice on occasions the most trivial, and on pretexts the most vexatious; too often manifesting a discreditable anxiety for the severe infliction of the lash; exclaiming intemperately against, affronting by gross and offensive language, and even proceeding to acts of personal violence towards the magistrate, whose humanity and conscience forbade to sanction conduct so unreasonable, or to gratify feelings so vindictive and unworthy. Let us hope that, when at length the dawn of freedom shall break for the millions of the enslaved in the United States, the rights and immunities of the new freemen shall be so lucidly and minutely defined, and so scrupulously observed, as to put it out of the power of the American proprietor to inflict so much injury on himself, by alienating the good will of his dependents, as in many instances has unfortunately been the case in Jamaica.

9. Are the complaints which come before the special magistrates diminishing; and are the planters and apprentices more disposed to acquiesce in their equitable decisions?—The number of complaints brought before the special magistrate is certainly on the decrease; but I do not observe that either master or apprentice is more disposed to acquiesce in, or less inclined to murmur at decisions given against them, than heretofore. The award of the magistrate is much oftener required by either party, in his capacity of judge, than resorted to by mutual consent, as referee or arbitrator.

10. What is your opinion as to the expediency of an apprenticeship, or an intermediate state between slavery and freedom. Please to be explicit, giving reasons and facts. Also your opinion as to the length of one, provided it should be expedient?—The question here proposed, involving, as it does, the safest and most advisable mode of effecting the abolition of slavery in the United States, is of paramount importance. I regret that I can only afford it a few lines. I do consider an apprenticeship, or an intermediate state between slavery and freedom, not only expedient, but necessary. The striking-off, at once, of his strongly rivetted chains from the slave, his sudden and complete escape, after a galling bondage, from all restraint, his instantaneous assumption of all the rights of a free agent, after the deep and depressing degradation, in which he and his forefathers have been so long plunged, would be like the release in a crowd of a savage animal, whose first impulse and movements, on the casting off of his bonds, would be injurious to those around him, and perhaps fatal to himself. Let there then be an intermediate state, the conditions of which shall gradually relax from a near resemblance to a state of slavery to an approximation to perfect freedom, until it merge entirely in the latter. The want of a graduated scale, on this principle, has been the dominant defect in the British scheme of emancipation, and will give rise, hereafter, to certain inconveniences more easily foreseen than now to be guarded against. I think that all slaves under eight years of age, and above 50; all women having more than two children should be manumitted at once. An apprenticeship, or term of conditional compulsory labour should be instituted as regards all others, for the space of five years. I would accord to the master five whole days' labour, of nine hours each, for the first year; four for the second; three for the third; two for the fourth; and one only for the last. During this progression, the apprentice should be secured in possession of his house, grounds, and all other allowances at present accorded to him. There is little doubt but that, when treated with humanity, he would give, for an equitable remuneration, the labour at his own disposal, to the person entitled by law to the remaining portion of his time; for an inhuman master, it cannot be expected, nor indeed would it be desirable that he should do so. As he would, then, up to the period of complete emancipation, be accustomed to live on his master's property, and to work for him in his own time, his continuing to remain there, when altogether a freeman, might, I think, be safely depended on.

The use of the lash should be abolished in toto, or restrained to such offences as would justly subject a freeman to the same degrading punishment. In the place of the whip should be instituted a system of continuous penal labour, for six days of 10 hours each, during the week, with close confinement on Sundays and holidays. The suitable and congruous punishment for the peculiar delinquencies of an apprentice, or unpaid labourer, such as improper performance of, or refusal to labour, is clearly labour compulsory and continuous; this, with solitary confinement in aggravated cases, would, I am persuaded, answer every end. The exemptions, privileges, and indulgences claimed by nature for pregnant women, nursing mothers, and for the sick, the source of much dispute and inconvenience in Jamaica, should be strictly defined by law, and scrupulously observed. The advantages of a special magistracy, unconnected with the question and the country, like that imposed by Great Britain on her colonies, could not be obtained, and indeed would not be tolerated in the independent provinces of the Union; but I should anticipate little difficulty in finding a sufficient number of enlightened, conscientious and impartial persons, paid by and responsible to Congress for the proper performance of their duties, who might safely be invested with powers adequate

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to the due administration of the law. I think, if the payment of a sum of money, as a compensation, should be found expedient, that it should be effected in the way of purchase by Government. In such case the slave of the individual would become the apprentice of the public, which would be thus enabled, at least in part, to reimburse itself, by hiring out the labourer at its disposal; the former master to have a right to preference, where no proof or suspicion of cruelty existed against him. The purchase-money should on no account be paid before the determination of the preparatory period, and then only for such individuals as may be at the time in existence. The surplus resulting from the decrease by deaths to be paid at the same capitation value to the increase by births. A plan of this nature would secure the attention of the master to the wants and comforts of his dependents, and promote at the same time the most essential interests of a country of such vast extent as that comprised in the United States, by ensuring the production and healthy elevation of a numerous and robust population. Interest should be allowed on the debt, and the amount of the hire be borne against the employer, as a set-off, at the period of payment. The master would thus not only enjoy the advantage of the amount of his claim, but also that of obtaining the services of his late dependent without immediate payment.

11. What is your opinion as to the necessity or safety of giving religious instruction to slaves?—I cannot disguise my amazement at a question, which would better suit the principles of a disciple of Pyrrho, than those of a member of any Christian community. Will Mr. Harvey suffer me to ask him whether God be not the God of all alike; of the poor, as well as of the rich; of the humble, as of the powerful; of the Gentile, as of the Jew; of the black man, as well as of the white? Or did the blessed Redeemer of mankind direct his Holy Gospel to be preached, and declare the glad tidings of salvation to those only, the hue of whose skins happens to resemble that of the American slave-dealer? I refer Mr. Harvey for a reply to the Evangelists' passions; and, in particular, to the Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians, chapter 10, verses 11, 12, 13 & 14.

Of the foregoing observations many are applicable to the present stage, and to the progress, of the apprenticeship in Jamaica; and by a parity of reasoning, I feel it a conscientious and imperious duty to earnestly recommend the immediate emancipation of all women having more than two children, and the abolition both of the lash and of the tread-mill. They are as real and as essential modes of torture as the thumbscrew or the rack; as it surely matters little, when the infliction of bodily pain is the end sought to be obtained, in what form it is applied. That the most humane of the special magistrates have often been under the necessity of recurring to these descriptions of punishments, has been entirely owing to the want of other equally efficient and less objectionable modes of penal correction. I am persuaded that the introduction of a system of continuous labour on estates, so often alluded to and recommended by myself, would combine necessary coercion with humanity; a mitigation of the punishments awarded against the apprentices seems only simple equity. One of the greatest defects of the present law, and of which the negro complains with much justice, is the disparity of the amount of punishment that can be inflicted on his master and on himself for corresponding offences towards each other. The apprentice is subject to receive 50 lashes, and to be kept at hard labour for three months, by sentence of the special justice. The Imperial Act, regarding the difference of station, awarded imprisonment against the master for the space of one month, or a fine to the amount of 5*l.*; and on a repetition of the offence, granted his freedom to the injured apprentice; but the Jamaica Legislature chose to limit the extreme punishment to a fine of 3*l.* sterling; in default of payment of which, and then only, he was rendered liable to common imprisonment for the space of five days. It is not a matter of astonishment if, under these circumstances, the negro cannot perceive a system of equitable proportion, and reciprocal retribution, in the enactments of the local legislature.

I shall conclude this report, which has grown to an unusual length, with a few observations, which are drawn from me by the very defective working of the Act for the classification of the apprentices, now in force. It has proved totally inadequate to the attainment of the end proposed, that of ensuring to the master, and to a certain class of the apprentices, their respective and lawful rights after 1838. So far from settling the question, it will only serve to throw new impediments in the way of right and justice, to raise fresh doubts, and to create such a maze of confusion as can only be cleared up or dissipated by further legislative enactment. Its chief defects are:

1. It enacts that the lists sent in, in the first instance, shall be of those who have been already classed as non-prædials; that is, the very lists prepared by the master himself, and delivered by him to the Commissioners of Planting Valuers appointed in 1834; without the concurrence, or even the knowledge, of the apprentice, whose freedom is now stake.

2. There is no penalty whatever to compel a due obedience to the law on the part of the planter; he may or he may not comply with its provisions as he thinks proper. In many instances the masters have availed themselves of this omission, and have neither sent in the lists required, nor appointed referees or arbitrators as directed by law. In such cases the apprentice has no remedy, and thousands may, under this statute, be defrauded of their freedom, and be illegally detained in bondage until 1840.

3. Many of the apprentices are hired out as domestics to persons residing in parts of the island, so distant from the property to which they are attached, that they cannot possibly present themselves, according to law, before the special magistrate on his visit to the estate, to advance their claim.

4. There is no security against the master compelling the apprentice to leave the property, and be out of the way on the day appointed for the visit of the special justice.

5. The constables may also forget, or omit, to give due notice to their fellow apprentices of the

the day which the magistrate has fixed for investigating into their claims; this I know to have occurred in several instances. The constables may be even deterred or induced by their employers to withhold the necessary information.

6. The five prior remarks distinctly show that the Act is at once inefficient and defective, and that it is so worded as to afford no protection or security to the non-prædial apprentice, whom an unconscientious or unscrupulous master may be disposed to defraud of his lawful rights; of which, when once deprived, then to sign and seal the actual wrong done him; to preclude him from every chance of redress; to extinguish even hope, the last consolation of the oppressed; the doors of the courts of justice are barred against him, by clause the 8th, which enacts, I quote verbatim, that "A copy of such list or certificate, so signed, shall be deemed and taken to be conclusive evidence of the class to which all and every the persons whose names are therein contained shall belong; and also conclusive evidence against the claims of any apprentice on any plantation, pen, or other settlement, claiming to be a non-prædial, whose name shall not appear on such list."

Capt. S. R. Warren,
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) I have, &c.
Edward Dacres Baynes.

(No. 39.)

Sir,

Licidas District, 1 July 1837.

I HAVE the satisfaction to report the state of this district as being quiet and laborious. The majority of offences consist of petty thefts and absence, perpetrated by the refuse of the estates' apprentices, who, having persisted in misdemeanors under a severer mode of government, cannot now be expected to amend.

The condition of mothers with increasing families will not bear any comparison, on the score of comfort, with the same class under the old system; the nursing generally afforded is insufficient, and the least portion of the master's time taken by them for the purpose is looked upon with a jealous eye, if not made a subject of complaint to the magistrate. Before the end of the apprenticeship the condition of many will be deplorable, from a still further probable increase.

Whether the mothers will be induced by rigorous measures to encourage their children to work for hire, it is needless to inquire; yet upon their feelings depends the success of the system, as far as the future habits of the rising generation are concerned. The love of offspring is generally a strong feature of the negro character; and that their free children have not hitherto worked for wages, all overtures to that effect having been disregarded, only shows the judicious discrimination of maternal care, which deprecates the former system of children at the tender age of seven or nine years engaging in severe field-labour, before their physical capabilities were properly developed.

To that system is to be attributed the decreasing population formerly complained of, and the living witnesses existing on every plantation, of people, adults in age, exhibiting the appearance of mere children. Total exemption from labour (except in the cultivation of provisions and domestic matters) of all free children to the age of 15, would ensure a healthy and athletic race of labourers. Their education and moral instruction, in the meantime, demands the attention of the Legislature, and the better energies of the planter; and however unwilling the parents may be to expose their children to hard labour at a tender age, a most laudable wish exists to have them properly instructed. I assume this fact as a proof of the advance of civilization among the apprentices, and as giving a well-grounded hope for the future prosperity of the country. Even had they resisted all measures likely to benefit themselves or their offspring, it should excite no surprise, emanating from a people who a few years ago were kept in systematic ignorance of every moral and religious tie, and, excepting in the severe duties of obedience and labour, were wholly uninstructed. Although great improvements have already been effected, it cannot be expected that they fully understand the advantages and duties of a denizen; and I assume (from the difficulty of imbibing new ideas after a certain period of life) that the greater part of the middle-aged population never will (the apprenticeship being only mitigated slavery, in no manner conduces to that desirable end); it is therefore to the younger part of the apprentices and the free children we must look to for the completion of the great benefits derivable from a state of freedom: a change from degraded slaves and forced cultivators to cheerful and intelligent free labourers.

If the mothers of free children were to hire their progeny for money to the planters, it would undoubtedly be considered as a proof of industry and good will. I contend that (for reasons adduced before) their time would be better employed in learning those truths and duties which are essential to their happiness, as ignorance and indolence will ever be found inseparable companions.

If this well-known truth is not attended to, and the children are suffered to grow to manhood uninstructed (in itself the fruitful source of crime), when all the evils which will arise from the neglect of education are felt, and doubly felt when the severe discipline of the system is removed, no blame can be attached to the parents; but great will be the responsibility of those who allowed the larger portion of the community to remain in ignorance; and those who neglected to provide for the storm, are assuredly in danger of reaping the whirlwind.

These remarks, I trust, will not be considered either harsh or uncalled for when I mention, that out of a large population only 11 free children of apprentices are receiving the advantages of education in this district.

To his Excellency the Governor.

(signed) I am, &c.
S. R. Ricketts, Special Justice.

(No. 40.)

SINCE my last report the apprentices generally have been behaving well, and a good feeling appears to exist between them and their employers. They are working willingly, the working hours being nine, allowing three hours of relaxation in the day. Task-work is generally resorted to, and in many places they are working in their own time for wages, at the rate of 2s. 6d. to 3s. 4d. per day. They get their usual indulgences. The free children are supported by their parents, who will not allow them to work. Six have purchased their discharge since the last report. The prospects for the ensuing crop are generally favourable, and the cultivation forward. The seasons have been remarkably favourable.

(signed) *John R. Hulme*, Special Justice.

(No. 41.)

Sir,

Lucea, 25 July 1837.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the conduct of the 10,000 apprentices under my jurisdiction has lately been exceedingly exemplary. The crop is now finished throughout this district. The returns I have requested are not yet made to me, but I am aware that an increase of about 500 hogsheads has taken place on the previous year. The cessation of the severe and complicated work of the sugar estates during crop time may in some measure account for the tranquil and orderly conduct of the apprentices at this time; but the fact of my having at this period of the month of July only had occasion to punish in this district, the most extensive in the island, in eight cases, and some of these not deserving the name of punishments, can only be accounted for by the existence of the mutual good feeling that in general subsists between the managers and the apprentices. I shall not disguise that I claim to have in some measure been instrumental in assisting in promoting this feeling; for while I have held the commission I have studiously endeavoured to impress upon those individuals within my jurisdiction that I have imposed upon me a higher duty (that of cultivating this feeling and preserving tranquillity) than merely to afford gratuitous opportunities of litigation, producing in many instances no other effect than the excitement of the bad passions of both master and servant.

I now find a general desire among the apprentices to work by task; but the bargains are usually made without my interference or cognizance. At all times, while not working task, (except on two or three estates during crop time, whereon the people work eight hours per day, five days a week,) the hours of labour are nine hours per day, four days, and four-and-a-half hours on the 5th day of the week. The apprentices are eager to work for wages. I find, in some instances, that they have been neglecting the cultivation of their ground provisions, by employing their labour and time in raising ginger, coffee, arrow-root, &c. for sale; and also by working for hire; the rate of wages averaging, for an able-bodied negro, 2s. sterling per day.

With the exception of a general desire among the managers to exact labour from women who were indulged by being exempted from work previous to the enactment of the present law, and except the stoppage of the rations formerly given to the young children now free, I find that the managers allow all the other allowances and indulgences which were customary in the time of slavery.

What the condition of the free children is I have very little means of knowing; they appear to be generally well clothed; but I have learned that considerable mortality has occurred amongst them, occasioned by ignorance or neglect. I have never acted on the 13th clause of the Imperial Act, or the 18th of the Local Act, for the Abolition of Slavery; and should a case come before me, I would not then be inclined to do so, except under peculiar circumstances, on my own responsibility. Although I am free to confess, and I do so advisedly, that an apprenticeship, combining facilities, or imposing the condition of a provision of religious, moral, mental, and physical education, was better adapted and more necessary for securing a capacity on their part of enjoying a positive state of political and social freedom, and for inculcating habits of industry, than any apprentice for their parents.

I hope it may not be considered impertinent to this report to hazard the opinion, that the apprenticeship of the adult population might safely, and with advantage, be dispensed with immediately. I know, within my own knowledge, the parish I am now stationed in, and from personal observation of the habits and character of the people, I have formed this opinion. I am acquainted with the pastoral districts of St. Ann's, the parishes of Vere, Clarendon, and the coffee mountains of Manchester; in addition to this, therefore, this opinion is grounded on some acquaintanceship with the people. It is unnecessary that I should offer many reasons for holding this opinion; it may be sufficient to state, that the exceptions are exceedingly few where I have not found that the apprentices are within the pastoral charge and under the moral control of Christian clergymen of some one denomination or other. Moreover, they have been accustomed all their lives to labour; and they are already so far advanced in civilization, that they will gladly labour for its luxuries. I never saw any signs of laziness among the negroes where there was any incitement to industry.

I find no general desire among the apprentices to purchase their discharge from the apprenticeship. The releases from the apprenticeship that occur are usually either purchases made of the

the apprenticeship of females for the avowed purpose of concubinage by third parties; or they arise from (in some instances) a quarrel between the apprentice and the manager; but cases also happen, and to some extent, merely for the purpose of transferring their labour to other individuals, to whom they secure their services by entering into articles. I cannot correctly ascertain how many discharges from apprenticeship have been effected during the quarter ending 1st July last. Cases occur where the money passes without my knowledge, and the discharge is made without my signature. The number of valuations was 19, and probably one half of these have paid the money.

In this district, I understand that the prospects of the ensuing crop never presented a more promising appearance. The seasons could not have been more favourable; and since the passing of the Abolition Law, the general state of the cultivation has never been so good, nor has the estates' work been so far advanced at a like period of the year.

I beg here to state that, nine months ago, when I arrived in this district, I found that opinion abroad, amongst the overseers and other managers, that they have left in their hands a power to punish delinquents by locking them up 24 hours, provided it is afterwards reported to the special magistrate. I have succeeded in putting a stop to this by making them understand that the power is in the hands of the constable as a restraining power in cases of a breach of the peace, or insubordination calculated to produce a breach of the peace, or cause the law to be violated, or for securing a runaway; but that no legal power of punishment is in the hands of either master or constable.

I have, &c.

S. R. Warren, Esq., Gov. Sec.
&c. &c. &c.

Hall Pringle,
Special Justice of the Peace.

(No. 42.)

R E P O R T.

St. Elizabeth's, July 1837.

THE most material circumstance in the history of this part of the island during the last quarter, and one therefore which naturally calls for remark, has been the prevalence of a suspicion that the Negroes of this and one or two of the neighbouring parishes were meditating schemes of insurrection and violence. Nothing of this kind (as it appeared), being too absurd and improbable to obtain credit; where a disposition existed to forbode evil, tales of alarm were circulated in abundance. The apprentice, never more peaceably disposed, saw himself the object of a rising distrust, which he could not comprehend, and was made to hear language and to see preparations which might rather have suggested to him offensive than defensive warfare.

The intimate knowledge I have of the apprentices of my district, and I may perhaps say the confidence I have acquired among them, enabled me from the first to discredit the whole of these most calumnious rumours, and to report to his Excellency, from time to time, the abundant evidence that could be adduced of their utter groundlessness.

I need not add that the result has confirmed these opinions; but it is but doing ordinary justice to the apprentices generally in this part of the suspected district to state, that though they were hurt at the surmises that prevailed, and felt as men conscious of the innocence of their intentions, I have never witnessed the least exasperation of feeling, nor heard a single expression of resentment.

That which the occasion too readily called forth in some of those who have authority over them has, I hope, entirely subsided. I venture to predict, that, in whatever motives those reports originated, the failure has been too signal to encourage any similar attempt. In no part of the world, probably, is there less reason to apprehend a disturbance of the public peace than in this colony.

I forbear to touch on all the heads prescribed for these quarterly reports, as it would lead to repetition.

Of the gradual improvement of the people under the present system, no doubt can exist. I know no intelligent person, with opportunities of forming an opinion upon the subject and who has been long enough in the island to compare one period with another, who makes it even a question.

I speak, however, of my own district and neighbourhood, where religious instruction, the great means of civilization and moral improvement, has been considerably encouraged.

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This parish, in common, I believe, with most parts of the island, is suffering from shortness of provisions, arising from the long period of dry weather soon after the planting time. Some allege that it is owing entirely to another cause; the neglect of cultivation. When I find, however, that managers themselves, who have the choice of land on the property for a provision ground, and the command of any number of the people to plant and clean it, are no better supplied than their people, the natural conclusion seems to be that it is owing to some common cause; the improvidence and neglect has at least been mutual, if neglect it be. But I have, in several instances, caused the apprentice-grounds to be inspected, in order to be under no doubt on so important a subject; and I am assured that they are still carefully cultivated, and that provisions will ere long be again abundant.

During the last quarter, twelve persons have purchased their release from the apprenticeship; eight of them have, I find, entered the service of other masters for the apprenticeship term, having been assisted, in whole or in part, with the money required; induced either by some discontent with the place they have left, or a desire to join some connexion at that to which they have gone, to make the change of service.

(signed) *John Daughtrey, S. M.*

(No. 43.)

Sir,

Barton Isles, 2 July 1837.

IN my present quarterly report I must remark, that, during the first two months of this quarter, the general conduct of the apprentices was not good; there appeared a kind of doggedness; the last month, however, has been an improving one.

The feeling between the apprentices and their employers remains much as usual; the former never do anything gratuitously.

I have still complaints that sufficient work is not done, sometimes to the extent of half what it should be; I consider that task-work would prevent this in some measure.

Nine hours per day are the usual working hours in my district, allowing the three hours for meals.

Task-work is generally resorted to by mutual consent in digging of cane-holes, which has always been the case; it is also partially commencing in other sorts of labour; the reason why it is not more general seems to be from the variety of character in a gang, as some are industrious, some idle, some disorderly, and some quiet, &c.

It is not usual for the apprentices to work for money wages in their own time, except in crop time, and that is only about the works in the manufacture of produce, but never in the field; at which time, the usual rate of pay is 1*d.* per hour for their extra time. They have been offered as much as 2*s.* 1*d.* for field work, and more sometimes; but in very few instances has it been accepted, and then only for a day.

In my district, about half the properties have withheld herrings, which formerly were given monthly, also Christmas allowances; but these are offered in payment of any extra labour which may be performed; in most cases where herrings are allowed, it is as a payment for watching, and in my district the apprentices are allowed to run a great deal of stock, which also is a consideration for watching.

The condition of the free children in my district is very bad indeed; they are getting more wild and more idle every day (there are a few exceptions); they are supported on the lands belonging to the proprietors of their parents, for which such proprietors reap not the least advantage from any little labour they could do; and their parents have been offered support and education for them, in consideration of what little services they could perform, as also pay, but field-work has been invariably rejected, with their usual expression, "Who ever hear of free work a field?"

There still exists the same want of facility to places of religious worship or instruction, on account of distance; some chapels and schools are, however, building, though slowly.

The desire among the apprentices of purchasing their discharge amounts to the average of five per month in my district, comprising the number of 6,500. Thirteen have purchased themselves since my last quarterly report.

Those who purchase themselves never resort to field labour again for a livelihood; those who are tradesmen do a little in their respective ways; domestics generally live in idleness.

This

This has not been a good crop year; half of the estates have fallen off, and half have improved, and the prospects for the ensuing crops are in general very promising; the seasons for the most part have been favourable up to the present time.

I have, &c.

C. H. Darling, Esq.
Gov. Sec., &c.

(signed) W. A. Bell, S. M.

(No. 44.)

Success House, 30 June 1837.

THE conduct of the apprentices in my district is tolerably good, and the feeling manifested between them and their employers in general is satisfactory. They perform their work willingly. Their hours for work are from six o'clock in the morning until four in the evening; they are allowed one hour for breakfast, and two for dinner. The apprentices are often employed with task-work, and are paid 10*d.* currency for their breakfast and two bitts for their dinner-time. No indulgences are withheld from them that they used to enjoy during slavery. The free children are supported by their parents, and their appearance is healthy: their attendance at church and school is regular, and the facilities afforded them for instruction and religious duties very good. The apprentices' wish to purchase their discharge appears daily to increase.

No discharges have been effected within the present month. If they are mechanics, they follow their trade; if not, they usually hire themselves to gentlemen as servants. The prospects of the ensuing crops are more favourable than last season.

(signed) Thomas Matthews,
Special Justice, St. Elizabeth.

(No. 45.)

Santa Cruz District, St. Elizabeth, Jamaica,
4 July 1837.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to forward to you, for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor, the following general quarterly report upon the state of my district, made up to the 30th June last:

The general conduct of the apprentices, since my last report, has been of a nature satisfactory to all parties, behaving with decency and propriety, labouring with cheerfulness, and performing a proportion of work considered sufficient. Offences and, as a natural consequence, complaints have been rather on the decline; a few instances of absences and neglects of duty, and a case or two for short labour, and of plundering from provision grounds, have formed the prevailing features of the offences and complaints that have been committed and preferred. In a district containing so many of the labouring class, idle and indolent characters will be found, and these offences must needs come; but the body of the people are giving perfect satisfaction, and it would be a prejudiced mind who would refuse them this their due meed of praise.

The good feeling and friendly understanding, which it has afforded me such pleasure on previous occasions to afford my testimony to and approval of, still reign predominant in the district; and in any case where the stream thereof might happen to be obstructed, it could only be attributed to the attempt at exercising by the employer something of the despotic sway of olden times, including a harshness of tone and manner, and ungraciousness, which the emancipated bondsman or woman cannot be expected to endure as the affrighted and trembling slave would and must have done. The labouring populations, after a three-years' enfranchisement from thralldom, know too well their rights and liberties; they feel themselves raised and elevated in the scale of existence; and what would once be accounted heinous offences, and punished with severity, can and should now only be considered as a respectful assertion of their rights. Thus a kind action, an approving look, good words, and conciliating deportment, which are all quite consistent with one's self-esteem and respect, will induce an apprentice to do, with willingness and alacrity, many things which he or she could not be compelled to perform now, whatever, under a less happier constitution, might have been the case. The black man, like his brother the white man, may be led but not driven to do that which is optional; the one is likely to be acted and prevailed upon and influenced by the little many civilities and courtesies of life as the other. A good

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and first-rate manager of the old school, unless he changes his sentiments and conduct to meet the change of the times, would be the worst of managers at the present day. Let the hue and cry, therefore, be ever so great against the blacks, I maintain that, giving them similar advantages, they are capable, morally and religiously speaking, to compete with their at present boasting superiors.

Nine hours a day are worked in my district, and one hour relaxation taken by the apprentices, labour commencing in the long days of the year at six o'clock and ceasing at four o'clock; during the short days, labour is begun and concluded half an hour later. I have just added to my list of properties to be visited, a property of Mr. Thomas Mason, named Southampton. Mr. Mason on all his properties has persevered, as I am informed, in working only eight hours a day; thus, in my opinion, rendering perfectly unavailing to the apprentices the additional time weekly of four and a half hours allowed by law for the purpose of assisting them in the cultivation of their provision grounds. The eight-hours' system never had and never will have my sanction.

Task-work is not generally resorted to in my district, but all parties, masters and apprentices, appear to be anxious that it should be. The scale of labour alluded to in my last general report has been just submitted to the test of practice and the approval of experience, and happy shall I be if a workable system in all respects will be the result of the experiment. Should such be the case, I anticipate that there will be very few, if any, complaints for insufficiency of labour. The apprentice, knowing that the specific quantum of work is fixed, and that consequently he cannot be made to perform greater, will willingly accomplish the task, and the employer, having given his sanction to his scale, must be satisfied therewith.

It is usual for the apprentices to work in their own time for money wages; when they work at day labour 2 s. 6 d. is the ordinary rate of wages for agriculturalists; but when tradesmen hire themselves out, or when labour is undertaken by the job, the terms are arranged by mutual agreement. The wages are paid in money, as far as my information extends. I know not of their being paid otherwise than in money. Unless by specific arrangement, the people would not labour but for money.

As to the indulgences usually allowed during slavery, my observations and remarks hereon must be the same as those heretofore submitted; they are most usually given; but, as they are only indulgences, they are liable at any moment and upon any occasion to be wholly or partially withheld, and either temporarily or permanently. Upon the whole, I believe they are allowed, and if at any time withheld, not for any very considerable length of time. In some cases, among the poor small settlers, by agreement, the master gives the apprentice time in lieu of clothing, medical attendance, or for Christmas presents. I have given my official sanction to one or two agreements of the first description, but not to the others, as I have not been applied to; but, in fixing the number of days to be given in lieu of clothing, I calculate what the articles required would cost at a store, and what, in fact, the owner would have to pay, and then value each day at the minimum price of labour, say 1 s. 8 d., and allow as many days as may be necessary; the number of days thus given of the owner, to be actually available to the apprentice, not to be affected by sickness or other accidents.

No improvement has been made in the condition of the free children since my last report; they are still in the same miserably neglected state as there described. They are being brought up in ignorance and idleness, and, as a concomitant, in vice. They must be compelled to receive instruction, and honestly to obtain a livelihood, or it would be in vain to look for those benefits which would follow the course suggested.

The district is still in want of greater facilities for education and religious instruction. A church is to be erected in the Santa Cruz Mountains; the site has been fixed upon, but it will be some considerable time ere the building be finished. A chapel on the Plains is in progress, but the funds are rather scanty. The rev. gentleman who performs Divine service at present in a temporary building, is zealously engaged in getting the free settlers and apprentices in the neighbourhood to assist the undertaking, by giving their personal labour where they cannot afford to give money. The attendance of the apprentices at Divine service is very considerably more than the accommodation. In the mountains the clergyman is obliged to go about on Sundays alternately to several of the central properties, and at one place, for want of room, he is obliged to have the service under a large mango tree, where numbers of the apprentices attend. After the performance of Divine service, the clergymen employ a considerable portion of time in catechising and affording religious instruction to such as are inclined. The "Great House" on Berlin plantation in these mountains has lately been given, for the purpose of having a school held there at stated times, but the attendance at the school is not equal to the accommodation; and although a good many children attend at this school, and at the school at the Moravian Chapel, superintended by the Rev. Mr. Haman, yet the greatest number of children in the district do not attend either moral or religious instruction.

There is a general desire among the apprentices to get released from the unexpired term of their apprenticeship; but of late the magistrates have appraised their services so high, that, during the past quarter of the year, only 10 have effected their discharge by the payment of the value awarded. Many have been valued who have been unable to raise the amount,

amount, and have continued in servitude; in other cases I have objected to the amounts awarded, as being excessive, and dismissed the case without coming to a decision. These very high valuations tend to defeat the intentions of the law in favour of the apprentice. The greater part of those who have obtained their discharge this quarter have hired themselves out; some have left the district, and others have remained with their husbands or wives, and attend to household concerns, and labouring in the grounds of their connexions.

The prospect of the ensuing crops of coffee is good. There has lately been very fine rains, and an abundant supply of fruit are on the trees, and, if the seasonable weather continues, there is every appearance of large crops being made. But coffee is a delicate article to rear; it requires favourable situations and regular and mild seasons, then it does well; but this district being so constantly and certainly subjected to the influence of severe drought, that the finest appearances cannot be relied on with a certainty of success. The cultivation is well attended to; the coffee-fields present a pleasing appearance, and cultivation generally appears to be well kept up.

Much distress at present prevails on account of the very great scarcity of ground provisions, arising from the late severe dry weather. Since the season commenced, people have planted, but some time must elapse ere subsistence can be derived from these plants. All classes are in consequence suffering, but the apprentices must be put to greater straits than their richer neighbours. It is attempted to be said, that the apprentices do not work their grounds; but I have not been able to convince myself that such is the fact, in order to record it here; on the contrary, the main body of the people attend sufficiently to their grounds, that, if the seasons could be depended upon, would be sufficient for their comfortable support, and the rest of their time they hire themselves for money. It is true there are on every property indolent and lazy characters, who will not cultivate any ground, who are as inert and slothful in their own affairs as in their duty towards their employers. These people, therefore, live upon the chance productions of nature, and plundering from the labours of the industrious; but these are evils which will exist, and the only hope is, that punishment for offences and the good example of the others may reclaim them; but it is certainly very unjust on account of the few to condemn the many.

It is said that there are not so much provisions raised now as during slavery, and thence it is concluded that the people are not working their grounds. The premises must be admitted, but not the deductions drawn. Formerly the people cultivated ground provisions upon a larger scale than they now do; they then raised not only sufficient for their own consumption, but to supply the public markets. The owner or occupiers of the soil seldom, if ever, raised provisions for public sale. Then the people had no opportunities of earning money but by the sale of provisions, in consequence they grew larger crops. Now the apprentice, by working in his own time, can acquire money more rapidly than by raising provisions for sale, therefore now he only works his grounds sufficiently for the immediate support of himself and family. Let the different possessors of the soil cultivate ground provisions for their own use, and to supply the public markets, then the evil now complained of, viz. the want of that particular kind of provisions, will have taken its flight for ever.

I have, &c.

(signed) *John Harris,*
Special Justice of the Peace.

C. H. Darling, Esq., Sec.
&c. &c. &c.

The King's House, Spanish Town.

(No. 46.)

Sir,

Grecian Regent, 1 July 1837.

THE crops of coffee just sent to market have not been quite so large as the last year, but the quality is very superior. There never was a finer prospect for the next year, and, so far as I can judge, the fields are quite as well cleaned, and the trees as generally pruned as heretofore. As I have not a single sugar estate in my district, I cannot speak as to them. An abundance of yams and vegetables have been planted in the Negro grounds, and, as the seasons were never finer, we expect most abundant crops; the last year's were not good, which occasioned considerable inconvenience to the apprentices.

With regard to the conduct of the overseers, I think it is improving; but some of them seem very hard to learn that the altered condition and prospects of the apprentices require a kind, considerate, and humane conduct on their part if they would keep labourers on the properties they manage. I think I have less reason, however, to complain on this score, than many of my brother magistrates. Two or three inconsiderate and troublesome overseers have been dismissed, and heavy fines imposed on some others in the preceding quarter, which have produced a good effect.

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I do not think the apprentices generally work their ground so well, or to so great an extent, as they did. The demand for their labour in their own time at wages (about 1s. 6d. sterling per day for able people), the bad returns of last year, the frequency of petty thefts, and the insecure tenure on which they hold their provision grounds (many owners having been so foolish as to warn the people that they would be turned off their grounds in 1840, and that those who bought their freedom before should instantly give up their houses and grounds, without even the three months' notice which the law appears to contemplate, but does not clearly and adequately secure), account for this circumstance. There is also a great disposition manifested by the apprentices to purchase land for themselves, instead of working on their masters' grounds, which is wholly to be ascribed to the imprudent conduct of those who represent their absent owners, and who ought, as I think, to encourage by all practicable means the continuance of the apprentices on the lands belonging to the owners.

I cannot say that the good feeling between master and apprentice seems to be on the increase, neither do I think that any adequate preparation has yet been made for 1838 and 1840, when, if measures to prevent it are not speedily taken, many estates must be abandoned, owing entirely as I conceive to the folly of the owners in not selecting proper overseers, and especially in not encouraging married persons in that capacity, and making such arrangements as would give those overseers a permanent interest in the prosperity and comfort of the people.

With regard to education, little has been done in my district. The Church Missionary Society have recently opened a school, which is, I hear, well attended by apprentices, and about 30 continue very regularly to attend the Sunday school here; but the apathy which prevails on this subject is to my mind both astonishing and distressing. If the country is to prosper, the Government must take this matter into their own hands, and provide elementary instruction for at least the free children whose parents cannot instruct them, and no one else appears to have both the inclination and the ability to do it.

I have, &c.

H. Bourne.

(No. 47.)

REPORT of Special Justice *R. Daly*, Central District of St. Andrew, June Quarter, 1837.

1. THE conduct of the apprentices is in general orderly, obedient, and, with few exceptions, industrious.

2. There are some instances of a want of good feeling between the apprentices and their masters. This is, however, almost exclusively confined to properties where the latter are opposed to the present system, or seek to make the most of the services of the apprentice, without due regard to the ulterior object which the law contemplates.

3. The apprentices appear very willing to perform their duties when under moderate and judicious masters.

4. The nine-hour system is now in general use in this district, and is by far the most just and advantageous for the apprentice. The hours of relaxation are from 10 to 11 o'clock A.M., and from 4 o'clock P.M., for the remainder of the day.

5. Task-work is in use on some of the properties in this district, and is I think likely to become general, and is found advantageous.

6. The apprentices in this district earn a good deal of money by working for wages in their own time, which they appear anxious to do, and exert themselves much on such occasions.

7. Most of the indulgences allowed in slavery are withheld; and in some instances where they are continued, the apprentices are required to give up part of their own time in return to the property, for instance, where the field-cooks are allowed, water-carriers and they pay time.

8. The free children, except in very few instances, do not receive any attention from the masters, and are entirely dependent on their parents.

9. There are two or three schools in the district attached to estates, and there is now a school-house being built under the superintendence of the Independent missionaries; this school is more likely to prove useful than those alluded to, as I think the apprentices prefer sending their children to such schools of a more public character. The apprentice-masters in the district appear to be favourable to the education and religious instruction of the free children, as far as I have heard their opinions; but the number of places of worship are by no means at present adequate to the population of the district.

10. I do not observe any very great desire among the apprentices to purchase their discharge, except when they consider themselves ill treated by their masters; and in such cases,

cases, they make every exertion to raise the amount of their valuation, by scraping all their means together, and often borrowing money, for which they have to serve for a certain time after becoming free.

11. They betake themselves on becoming free to various employments, according to their former occupations; but I observe many of them make it a trade to go into the country and purchase provisions, which they retail in the towns to some advantage; this certainly appears among them a favourite employment.

12. The prospects of the ensuing crop are very good; the season has been particularly favourable, and the cultivation is in a forward state.

13. I have no particular suggestions to make. I am happy to state that the number of complaints in my district is lessening every day; and my general court, which is held weekly, once, at Halfway Tree, and which some months since was crowded with complainants, has been for the last two weeks unattended with one single case.

R. Daly, Special Justice,
Central District, St. Andrew, Jamaica.

(No. 48.)

QUARTERLY REPORT, 1 July 1837, St. Andrew's Mountains, Western District.

Sir,

IN reporting on the state of this district, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that it continues tranquil, and labour is carried on regularly.

As to what can be correctly termed a good feeling between master and apprentice, I confess myself sceptical as to the existence of such while compulsory labour is maintained.

The nine-hour system is under general adoption. Task-work not so hitherto; neither party seem attached to it.

I know of no usual indulgence withheld from the apprentice. Labour, in their own time, averages about 1s. 6d. sterling per day of nine hours.

I believe there is very little doing for any free children, the majority of whom are in a state of idleness.

The apprentices are anxious to purchase their discharge, but the high value of their services renders this very difficult. Five only have done so this quarter. Those who purchase their exemption usually buy or rent land for the cultivation of provisions.

There is every prospect of a good crop next season.

I have no suggestion to offer further, than that under the present system the relation between master and servant decidedly is not improving; and however obedient the Negro population may be to the existing law, they are certainly quite aware that it is not based on equity.

I have, &c.

His Excellency Sir Lionel Smith,
&c. &c. &c.

Arthur Welch, Special Magistrate.

(No. 49.)

Sir,

Gardens, Port-Royal District, 13 July 1837.

I HAVE much satisfaction in stating, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that the apprentices in my district have continued to improve daily; their general conduct is unexceptionable; they are perfectly contented, and work cheerfully. The managers are seemingly generally satisfied.

There has been a great scarcity of provisions, owing to the want of seasons, which has been very severely felt, not only by the apprentices, but by all classes. There are, however, some worthless apprentices that will not work their grounds, and in consequence have been so destitute for the want of food, that I was compelled to cause them to be fed at estate's expense.

It is deeply to be regretted, that charges against the lower order of apprentices, for pilfering the estates' grounds and those of their fellow-apprentices, were so numerous, and to so lamentable an extent, that I was of necessity compelled to have recourse to corporal punishment. I have, however, the satisfaction to state, that my diary of the past month will prove that complaints of that description have greatly diminished by the application.

The introduction of the system of task-labour, agreeably to the scale laid down, will, I have every reason to apprehend, be of the greatest importance to the islands generally.

It affords me pleasure to state, that I have gone through the classification of the apprenticed labourers in my district, without any objections being raised, or obstacles thrown in my way, by either managers or attorneys.

The most perfect order and tranquillity prevail in my district.

I have, &c.

S. R. Warren, Esq., Secretary, &c. &c. &c.
King's House.

C. Hamilton, S. J.

(No. 50.)

QUARTERLY RETURN of District Upper Part of the Port-Royal Mountains and Upper Part of St. David's; Quarter ending 30th of June 1837.

WHAT has been the general conduct of the apprentices in your district since your last report?

Generally good; there is a great deal of pilfering by the worst disposed of the apprentices, and which discourages the others from working their grounds.

Is there any want of good feeling between them and their employers, and if so, to what cause do you attribute it?

Such feelings certainly did prevail on my first coming to Jamaica, but they are gradually wearing off.

Do they perform their work willingly; and if not, to what do you ascribe it?

I do not think they work with any spirit; they are naturally prone to idleness, and seek every opportunity to skulk from their work.

What are the working hours generally in use in your district? Are any and what interval of relaxation allowed to the apprentices during the working hours?

On the greater part of the estates in this district they work five days, of nine hours, one week, and four days the alternate week; some few work regularly four days and a half only. One estate, Clifton Mount, in St. Andrew's, continues to work on the eight-hour system. They are allowed an interval of one hour to their washmouth and breakfast.

Is task-work generally resorted to in your district? If not, does the objection lie with the master or the apprentices?

Task-work is seldom practised in this district. I cannot say where the objection lies, unless it proceeds from the rugged state of the ground.

Is it usual for the apprentices to work in their own time for money wages? If so, what is the ordinary rate of wages, and how are they paid? If not, have they been offered?

In the picking season, when there has been a large crop, as in 1835, they were employed in their own time, and paid at the rate of 10*d.* per bushel. I have never known them to refuse when offered 2*s.* 1*d.* per day, but they will not work for a macaroni; they are paid in silver.

Are any indulgences withheld which it was usual during slavery for the estate to supply?

Fish and salt are withheld, but not their Christmas allowance (except on one or two estates); allowances to the lying-in women are also withheld; nor is the surgeon paid for attending the free children. I have never known medicine denied them.

What is the condition of the free children? and how are they supported?

They are running about wild in the day, their mothers being at work in the fields, who are extremely averse to their doing any work for the estate.

What facilities does your district supply for education and religious instruction? Is the attendance in the church equal to the accommodation?

There are no schools in this district, and only one small chapel (St. Michael's), which is usually crowded. Another is about to be built at the base of Clifton Mount, on the Content-road. There is a great desire on the part of the male adults to learn to read; and on one estate, Chester Vale, a number of them were taught in the course of twelve months.

Is there a general desire among the apprentices to purchase their discharge? How many discharges have been effected since your last report?

Few apply now, as they see the utter impracticability of procuring their discharge at a fair and reasonable rate. I am of opinion there should be two special justices, as well as two local, on all valuations: only two have effected their discharge.

To what kinds of employment do those who have obtained their discharge usually betake themselves?

Generally as domestics. They seldom apply to be valued but when a friend is coming forward with the money; and it is therefore, in nine cases out of ten, a transfer of service to a master or mistress of their own choosing.

What are the prospects of the ensuing crop; and what the general state of cultivation?

Has the season been favourable or otherwise?

This district is entirely coffee estates. The trees present a fine appearance at present, and it is generally thought will yield as fine a crop as that of 1835. The great drought we experienced the four first months in the year does not appear to have done much injury in this high quarter of the island.

Have you any suggestions to make, or any practical measures to recommend?

None. I am happy to say everything is going on quietly throughout the district, except on one estate (Whitfield's Hall, in St. David's), on which I shall be under the necessity of ordering the police to protect me from the insulting conduct and language of the overseer.

H. Kent, Special Justice.

(No. 51.)

(Extract.)

Sir,

Manchioneal, 15 July 1837.

THE violent conduct and improper examples of gentlemen of influence, unfortunately too successfully imitated by their subordinate agents, the overseers and bookkeepers, prevent me from reporting any favourable change in the mode of management pursued by the planters of Manchioneal. The continued opposition to the law, and frequently to the dictates of humanity and justice, is arrested only by the strong powers of the law. The planters of this district were formerly too often, and criminally, permitted to infringe the laws, and invade the privileges of the apprentices with impunity. The surrender of their power to tyrannize, which has become inevitable under a proper administration of the Abolition Act, is attended by a resistance to the authority of the magistrates, frequently approaching to personal violence.

In several of the despatches which I have from time to time forwarded from this district, it would be seen that the arrangements for the extra labour of the apprentices were of the most unsatisfactory, nay, unjust character; requiring a vast deal of extra labour from the apprentices, old and young, men and women, in return for which the "indulgences of slavery" were to be continued; that such indulgences frequently included the natural obligations of mothers to their infants and sick children. My opposition to these arrangements, and determination not to renew contracts so disadvantageous to the apprentices, who themselves bitterly complained of their injustice, rendered me obnoxious to Mr. — and Mr. —. Every means which ingenuity or malice could suggest was resorted to, in order to accomplish my removal from this district, while the most powerful attempts were used, and the Executive was annoyed by misrepresentations and petitions, with sophistical and inconclusive premises, I was personally subjected to annoyances of a disagreeable and severe character.

It is now my duty to state the treatment I have experienced in my recent visits to Elm Wood (the property of Mr. —), and Betty's Hope (the property of Mr. —). On my two last visits to Elm Wood, I was compelled to hold my court under the roof of an old cattle-mill. On one side of this building, where the carpenters of the plantation usually work, I was required to hold a court. On the opposite side were the horses of the visitors; in the centre the sheep were kept. To add to the annoyances of this disagreeable and filthy situation, the last day was rainy, and the leaky state of the roof compelled me on several occasions to put up my papers, which had become partially saturated with water. Late in the evening of the day before this visit, Mr. — caused a sign-post to be stuck up on the gate of the road connecting Rose Garden and Elm Wood (a road used from time immemorial by travellers between the two properties), intimating that all persons would be prosecuted as trespassers who travelled thereon. This I should have disregarded but for a recent decision of the Supreme Court, in my opinion opposite and repugnant to the spirit and letter of the law, which gives the special magistrate the liberty of ingress and egress through the plantations of his district. I would also have been spared the personal opposition of Mr. — but for another recent decision of the court, making it imperative on the magistrate to settle all disputes on the plantations on which they occur, and to which there may be attached upwards of 40 apprentices. Mr. —'s conduct throughout justifies the presumption that the adjudication of the complaints brought forward was of secondary consideration. One of these complaints was against two mothers of children, to obtain repayment of a few days lost to his services, while they were engaged in attending to their sick children, although he had previously refused them either medicine or medical attendance. On deciding that such time could not be repaid, inasmuch as it was lost by the women through circumstances over which they could exercise no control, and that the Abolition Act did not intend to supersede the natural obligations which parents owe to their offspring, I was threatened with the vengeance of the superior courts. And if credence is to be attached to the declarations of Mr. —, I shall most certainly be plunged in the vortex of legal difficulties and embarrassments.

A few days after I was summoned on the property to adjudicate a complaint. The overseer directed me to an out-room adjoining the kitchen; here I declined holding a court; and to add to this gross indignity, he offered me the use of his horse-stable for the purpose. By the orders of Mr. — I was prevented from riding through the ordinary roads between Reach and Spring Valley and Betty's Hope and Orange Hill. These properties are all in my district; and the consequence of these orders, coupled with the recent decisions of the Chief Justice before adverted to, is to entail on me in some instances an additional ride of five to six miles.

Such is the conduct of gentlemen who are bound by the obligations which they owe to society to give proper support to the law and its officers.

I have, &c.

Richard Hill, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

R. Chamberlaine, Special Justice.

(No. 52.)

Sir,

Morant Bay, 25 July 1837.

I AM happy to be able to assure you of the increasing desire for religious instruction among the apprentices of my district.

To support this opinion it might be sufficient for me to direct attention to their regular attendance at places of worship; their anxiety to form matrimonial connexions, and the substitution of religious discipline in their social meetings for the unprofitable and pernicious habits to which they were formerly addicted. But sufficient as these habits are to indicate advancement in Christian civilization, and to mark the crossing of the threshold which separates superstition from Christian knowledge, it is my happiness to record a circumstance which places the desire of the apprentices for religious instruction in a more prominent light.

Sometime ago the Reverend Henry Hoage was permitted to preach at Belvidere estate, but the only place that the proprietor could spare was ill-suited for the purpose. The apprentices felt this, and were not slow in agreeing among themselves to build a new chapel, sufficient to afford them comfortable accommodation.

When I heard of their intention, I must confess I doubted the fulfilment of it. I had heard so much of the misapplication of their time, of days wasted in strife and worthless pursuits, that I could not help feeling my own experience of their habits considerably weakened. It was therefore with heartfelt satisfaction, that I witnessed the commencement of the building, which is now finished and well attended.

I have, &c.

T. B. Warren, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *D. Ewart*, Special Justice.

(No. 53.)

Sir,

Bath, 3 August 1837.

I BEG leave to enclose the following information as it respects my district:—

1. The apprentices continue to conduct themselves in the same good order as when I last reported.
2. The feeling between master and apprentice good.
3. They are performing labour, with few exceptions, willingly.
4. Working hours, as formerly, nine; two and a half hours allowed during the day for relaxation.
5. Task-work is a little on the increase, not at all general, the apprentice the party objecting.
6. The work done for wages since my last report not to any extent; one estate, Winchester, had dug by apprentices, not all of them belonging to that property, about 20 acres, the price per acre one doubloon.
7. Indulgences; not aware of any being withheld.
8. The condition of the free children not good, their parents refusing excellent offers.
9. The attendance at church more than equal to the accommodation, but not so with the schools.
10. The desire to purchase their discharge not general.
11. When free I am not enabled to learn to what employment they betake themselves.
12. The prospect of the ensuing crop good; the dry seasons much against the last crop, and a falling off of the general estimate will be the consequence.

I have, &c.

S. R. Warren, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *George Willis, jun.*,
Special Justice.

(No. 54.)

Sir,

Retreat, St. Thomas-in-the-East,
Port Morant and Rocky Point District, 1 July 1837.

IN making this my quarterly report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, I have the honour to state that my district remains in the same position; the apprentices quiet, orderly, and working cheerfully; their masters kind and considerate.

The legal hours of work are properly attended to, and when deviated from to get off the crop, it is with a mutual good understanding and good feeling between the parties, and for which the apprentice gets remuneration. Task-work is not general in my district; the masters are anxious that it should be so, and I feel convinced it would be to the advantage of both. Where it has been tried, they have been enabled to go to their homes by two o'clock, proving clearly that they are capable of performing much more labour than the master exacts from

from them; should task-work become general, the advantages would be sensibly felt after 1840, as the extra work which they would be able to do for hire would make up, in a great degree, for a deficiency of hands. Generally speaking, the apprentices are averse to working for money, preferring time, as they can make more by the cultivation of their extensive provision grounds, the communication with Kingston being so easy; when provisions are abundant, they send craft laden to that market. When they work for money, it is generally in digging cane-holes, and they are paid 5*d.* for every 12 holes. No indulgences are withheld from them that they enjoyed during the time of slavery, and the free children have medical aid and allowances when applied for. Religious instruction is amply provided for, and at the last parish vestry a considerable grant of money was voted for that purpose. The apprentices are very fond of attending some place of worship, are well dressed, and conduct themselves most orderly. In this extensive parish, the churches are too far distant from each other; it would be most desirable to have a church at Port Morant, and another in the mountain district. There is not a general wish to purchase their freedom, only three have done so since my last report. The women that get free chiefly employ themselves as higglers, purchasing things at Kingston and disposing of them upon the estates, and exchanging for poultry or bread kind; the men resort to towns, are most of them idle, unless (which is often the case) that some brown tradesman found the money, when he, as free, is obliged to work harder, with fewer comforts, than he had as an estate apprentice.

The crop this year, from the long continuance of dry weather, disappointed the sanguine expectations of the managers, and is short; this could not be obviated by human foresight or extra manual labour; everything is in a state of forwardness for next year. A steam-engine has just arrived from England for this estate, which indicates confidence after 1840.

I do not anticipate any discontent from the prædial population in 1838, nor do I think the loss will be much felt by the estates, there being so many domestics, that one half of them were idle, and a constant expense, without a corresponding advantage. In concluding my report, I trust I shall not be considered presumptuous in hazarding an opinion of the prospects after 1840; it is difficult to look into futurity, but from close observation I, with the utmost deference, beg to state that I think the good and industrious proportion of the apprentices will remain in a body on the estate, to obtain the protection of the master and the laws; and as numbers, like the bundle of sticks, will constitute strength, they will be enabled to protect themselves from the bad characters who will exist for a time by robbery. Not being an enterprising people, they would prefer their present habitations and grounds to locating themselves among strangers, and, to secure these advantages, will be ready to meet the reasonable wishes of the master; and when all are alike free, the rising generation, now in a state of idleness, will be compelled by their parents to work.

I have, &c.

To Capt. Warren, &c. &c. &c.
King's House.

(signed) Thos. Baines,
Special Justice.

(No. 55.)

Sir,

Alley, Vere, 12 July 1837.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, the following report on the state of my district, for the quarter ending the 30th day of June last:

Not having been in the parish during the two first months of the quarter, I am unable to report as fully as I otherwise might have done; I am, however, compelled to say, that, as far as my observations have gone, a reciprocal good feeling is apparent between the managers and apprentices, the latter of whom, generally speaking, are well disposed, and perform their labour willingly; and this disposition on their part is encouraged as much as possible by the managers. All the indulgences which the apprentices were accustomed to receive under the slave system are still continued, and, as far as I can learn, they are never withheld, except in cases of bad conduct.

The nine-hour working system (with two or three exceptions) is adopted in this parish. Field labour commences at sunrise, and terminates at sunset. Mid-day, and one hour in the morning for breakfast, is the time allowed to the apprentices for relaxation from labour. It is optional with them either to take the hour for breakfast, or to add it to the time allowed at mid-day. The eight-hour system commences at six or seven o'clock A. M., and terminates at three or four o'clock P. M.; the apprentices have one hour for breakfast, from ten to eleven o'clock. The apprentices also willingly work for hire, whenever their services are required for the manufacturing of produce, at the rate of 1*s.* 8*d.* per day, and digging cane-holes at 5*s.* per hundred; and which wages are always paid in money.

With regard to the free children, I have to observe they are supported by their parents. I am informed that several of the estates give them allowances at Christmas.

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In this district, with one or two exceptions, this year's crop has been finished. It is the general opinion that there has been a falling off of one half from the previous year's crop: it is, however, to be remarked, that the decrease has not arisen from any fault in the working of the apprenticeship system, but solely from the dry weather during the past year. The prospects, however, for next year are most cheering, the May season having been more favourable than has been recollected in this parish for some time; from which favourable appearances, the managers are in great hopes of a good return.

I have, &c.

W. R. Ward, Esq.,
Secretary.

(signed) *Richard Armstrong,*
Special Justice.

(No. 56.)

QUARTERLY REPORT.

1. THE general conduct of the apprentices, since my last report, has been good.
2. In general, there is a good feeling between masters and apprentices; but much discontent has been occasioned among those apprentices whose masters have adopted the eight-hours' system. Fortunately, only two overseers have, as yet, done this in my district, and I have every hope that none will follow their example.
3. Generally speaking, they work in a satisfactory manner.
4. The usual system of labour is, working at the rate of nine hours a day, with the interval of half an hour for breakfast, and between two and three hours for dinner.
5. Task-work is resorted to in almost every case where circumstances will admit. Both managers and apprentices like this system of labour, but it can only be adopted in particular cases. The Governor's recent ordinance respecting a scale of labour will cause task-work to be carried as far as possible, and with infinite advantage to both master and apprentice.
6. It is very usual with apprentices to work in their own time for wages, when these are offered; but the present very high rate of wages renders this species of labour much less common than it would be were wages moderate. The present rate for able-bodied field Negroes I believe not to be less than half a dollar a day.
7. The same allowances, generally speaking, are given as formerly, but on condition of a certain quantity of extra labour. I speak of such allowances as the master is not compellable to give by the existing law.
8. The free children are usually supported by their parents; but the want of education among them is perfectly deplorable, and calls for the immediate and most serious attention of the Government.
9. As yet the facilities of education are extremely limited indeed. Private individuals and different societies have commenced doing a great deal, but the Jamaica legislature has literally done nothing. In the present dearth of education, the accommodation, both in churches and schools, is fully equal to the number of attendants; but it is to be hoped that the progress of the people in moral and religious instruction will render many schools and churches necessary.
10. Any apprentice would naturally be glad to purchase his freedom; but the high rate of wages has so greatly increased the valuation of apprenticeships, that very few are able to pay the price now put upon them. Only two have bought their apprenticeships in this district since my last report.
11. Those who have been employed as field-labourers generally get small patches of ground, which they work on their own account. I scarcely know an instance of a manumitted Negro working on an estate. The tradesmen who buy their freedom generally follow the trade they exercised as apprentices.
12. In consequence of the great rains that have fallen during the last two months, the most sanguine hopes are entertained that the crop of 1838 will be very good. The general state of cultivation is as good as could reasonably be expected.
13. Three things appear to me to be in the highest degree necessary for Jamaica: an extensive, efficient diffusion of moral and religious instruction; the establishment of savings-banks; and the immediate abolition of Negro flogging.

(signed) *Alexander N. Macleod,*
Special Magistrate, St. Dorothy's, &c.

—No. 66.—

(No. 211.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K. C. B.

No. 66.

Sir,

Downing-street, 9 February 1838.

I HAVE received your despatch (No. 172) of the 8th of September, enclosing the special magistrates' reports for the quarter ending the 30th of June.

I observe with great satisfaction the testimony universally borne in these reports to the continued good conduct, and the orderly, industrious, and improving habits of the apprenticed population, which seems to have been maintained in several instances under very trying circumstances; and I have read with peculiar interest Mr. E. D. Bayne's letter, in which he gives so strong an opinion, and draws so striking a picture of the advantages, moral, social, and political, which have already accrued to the labouring classes in Jamaica from the change in their condition.

I observe, also, that an increase in the number of churches and schools is visible in most of the districts; that they are generally well attended, and that the complaint, formerly so common, of an indifference on the part of the mothers to the education of their children, seems to be disappearing as the means of education are brought more and more within their reach.

The number of punishments has been diminished within the last six months by one-half; and it would appear that these are for the most part confined to a set of irreclaimable characters, of which every community contains a proportion, though in a community just emerging from slavery, that proportion must of course be larger than elsewhere. I trust I am justified in presuming that the main body of the apprenticed population are so well conducted, and so well aware of their rights and their duties, that punishment is found to be no longer necessary. That there has been any considerable accession of mutual confidence and kindness between the apprentices and their employers, cannot, I fear, be alleged. It is satisfactory, however, to be assured that whatever unpleasant feeling may exist, arises from no unwillingness on the part of the former to submit to the necessary conditions of their social position, and the restraints imposed on them by the law; but only from the vexatious proceedings and unreasonable exactions to which they are too frequently exposed, and which may be most effectually obviated by the removal of indiscreet and oppressive managers. With reference to Mr. Grant's representation of the proceedings on an estate belonging to Sir John McDonald, I am happy to inform you that, on the receipt of the extract from the report which was transmitted by you to Sir J. McDonald, the overseer of that property was immediately dismissed; and I have no doubt that the same course would be adopted by other proprietors resident in this country in any similar case, on a proper representation of the facts being addressed to them.

I abstain, in compliance with your advice, from forming any opinion on the particular questions at issue between Mr. Special Justice Chamberlaine and some of the planters in his district; but I fear there can be no reason to hesitate as to the general effect of the decisions in the Supreme Court, which deny the right of the special justice to visit every part of the plantations at all times, and to hear the complaints of the apprentices whenever and wherever they may be brought before him.

On this and some other points connected with the administration of the law, which are adverted to in their reports, I abstain from entering more fully in this despatch, because I have elsewhere had occasion to address you generally on this subject; and I am satisfied that all the powers which you at present possess, will be directed to remedy the existing evils.

With regard to Mr. Lyon's letter, from which it would appear that, in the district to which he has been recently transferred, the apprentices have been exposed to a great deal of fraud and oppression, and that they have been deterred from complaining from want of confidence in the special justice, I should wish to receive a further report. I am at a loss to understand how the system which Mr. Lyon describes can have been carried on to such an extent without a degree of negligence or inefficiency on the part of the magis-

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trate, which would render his continuance in the special commission inadmissible. I have to request that you will cause further inquiry to be made into the circumstances, and endeavour to discover with whom the blame rests. Mr. Lyon elsewhere remarks that the parish contains a greater number of zealous and active missionaries than any other in the island. It is hardly to be supposed that the apprentices could be prevented from representing their grievances to them; and therefore, if their complaints have been suppressed, you will probably find no difficulty in ascertaining to whom the suppression of them is to be ascribed.

I observe that Mr. Hawkins again speaks of the mothers being invariably required to repay time lost to the estate in attendance on their sick children; and Mr. Ramsay also remarks that they "are expected to perform their work without any consideration of the free children."

I trust that any doubt which may have been entertained as to the illegality of such demands has been already removed; if not, I would suggest the immediate promulgation of a circular instruction to the special justices, again reminding them that it is their duty to resist every demand upon the services of the mothers which shall have the effect of depriving them of the time or the opportunities requisite for the discharge of their necessary maternal duties.

Most of the magistrates, I perceive, advert to the scarcity of provisions, and the remissness of the apprentices in tilling their provision grounds. Mr. Cooper ascribes this to the conduct of the managers in withdrawing the watchmen, and thus exposing the grounds to depredations. Mr. Bourne states, "that many owners have been so foolish as to warn the people that they would be turned off their grounds in 1840, and that those who bought their freedom before should instantly give up their houses and grounds, without even the three months' notice which the law appears to contemplate, but does not adequately secure." This is an evil which ought to be much more dreaded on behalf of the planters than on behalf of the apprentices, though the tendency is on all accounts, and for all interests, to be carefully observed. The Assembly of Jamaica might perhaps be awakened to a sense of its importance, since they appear to have recognised it by their law, although not to any effectual purpose.

(signed) *Glenelg.*

— No. 67. —

(183.)

No. 67.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith* to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Spanish Town, 23 September 1837.

Vide Papers relative to the Abolition of Slavery, Part 4 (1), 1837, page 176.

IN acknowledging the honour of your Lordship's despatch, No. 30, dated the 30th December 1836, referring to various despatches of Lord Sligo, reporting acts of oppression towards the apprenticed labourers, and instances of their ill-treatment in houses of correction, I have to express my regret that I have not been able to reply to it earlier; but it was referred to the Attorney-general, and has laid over a considerable time.

Your Lordship's despatch first refers to the withdrawal of cooks and water-carriers, as reported by Mr. Special Justice Hamilton. There can hardly be a greater grievance to the Negro, or one more impolitic as regards the interests of the master. The hour and a half allowed for breakfast ceases to be a period of rest, for they must seek fuel and cook their morning meal, after which little time is left to take their food. The depriving them of water-carriers is still more injurious; for if water is not brought to the people at their work in their rows, they are not permitted to quit the rows to seek it, and are thus exposed to the agonies of thirst under a burning sun.

I would not on any account give your Lordship to believe that these evils are general; on the contrary, I consider them of rare occurrence; but unfortunately

we

we have nothing but the usages of slavery to insist on, without any positive law to enforce them. The only expedient we have is to direct the special justices not to award any punishment for insufficiency of work occasioned by that want of necessary assistance which they are fairly entitled to.

The next case referred to in your Lordship's despatch is that of Catherine Bayley, reported by Mr. Special Justice Gregg to have been sent into the field after she had failed in paying her valuation. There can be little doubt the motive was punishment; but it is difficult to obtain evidence of motives. It was Mr. Gregg's duty to have declared the nature and amount of labour she was capable of, and to have warned the overseer against giving her any other employment.

In the case of George Walsh, a constable of Bybrook, who complained of having been degraded of that office, I am of opinion Mr. Harris could not have interposed his authority. It may not consist with the efficiency of a constable that he should at the same time be a field labourer; but the master would consider he infringed no law by making him work on an emergency.

In the case reported by Mr. Manderson to Lord Sligo, where a man of the name of Clark was employed by Mr. Miller, I am afraid it was, as represented, a case of great oppression; but the law is against the complaint, and the Attorney-general is of opinion, that in this case, as well as in that described in the second paragraph, nothing could be done towards bringing the offender to justice.

The subject of Mr. Baynes's report on the condition of the house of correction of St. John's, is one of the cases included in the bills ignored by the Middlesex grand jury in October last. But I am happy to say the abuses in that establishment have been removed.

The cases of local magistrates committing deserters is a direct violation of the law assigning exclusive jurisdiction to the special magistrates over the apprentices, and will be strictly prohibited.

When apprentices are committed, the special magistrates cannot limit or define their punishment, because it is regulated by law; such at least has been the doctrine lately declared from the bench by the chief justice; yet we have recently had a most interesting trial, as I have already reported to your Lordship, in which a free black man, named M'Vicar, prosecuted the supervisor of a prison for having been put on the treadmill and in chains without the order of a magistrate. He recovered damages, and the supervisor was dismissed. This has not been overlooked, but is now on reference to the Attorney-general to report whether we may not claim the same rule for apprentices, who have all the civil rights of other men. I anticipate this will prove a means of correcting great abuses in the general use of treadmill punishments.

All the other cases of cruelty reported by Mr. Baynes were, I am sorry to say, ignored by the Middlesex October grand court.

I now beg to report to your Lordship that I shall endeavour to remedy some of these and other evils resulting from the imperfect provisions of the Local Abolition Act, when the House of Assembly meets, by appealing to them to enact by law all the usages and indulgences which applied to slavery. These secured cooks, water-carriers and hospital attendants, were lenient to young mothers, and mothers of six or more children, and protected the aged from hard labour.

On well-regulated estates those usages and indulgences have never been withdrawn, and the system is working satisfactorily; but it is where managers or overseers, having only a temporary interest in the properties, disregard the present welfare of the labourers, and the future benefit of proprietors, that discontents and complaints are created, alike injurious to the working classes and to the character of the community.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Lionel Smith.*

In No. 170,
4 Sept. 1837.

JAMAICA.

(No. 182.)

— No. 68. —

No. 68.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*.

Sir,

Downing-street, 15 November 1837.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your despatch, No. 183, of the 23d September, written in answer to mine, No. 30, of the 30th December preceding, on the subject of divers cases of oppression, which I had found detailed in some of the enclosures to various recent despatches from Lord Sligo.

It would be in vain for me to pursue the discussion of the particulars of these cases, since I can have no doubt that every power with which the law, in its present state, invests the executive authorities, has been exercised by the colonial government and its officers towards the redress of the grievances in question. I have to regret, indeed, that a reference to the Attorney-general of Jamaica should have been the cause of so long a delay in looking further into these matters; but I trust that on occasions where practical steps can be taken for remedying abuses, the Attorney-general is not in the habit of postponing his reports for so long a space of time. Although in most of the present instances no legal proceedings seem to have been practicable, I am happy to learn that some of the most flagrant cases are capable of a remedy, and that the abuses in the St. John's house of correction have been removed. In the remaining cases, a representation to the attornies and proprietors on whose plantations the abuses occurred might possibly have been of use in preventing their recurrence. You do not say whether any such representations have been made, and I beg, therefore, to remind you of the suggestion to this effect in my despatch of the 30th November last, and to repeat, that where such representations are found to be of no avail, the names of the attornies and proprietors, as well as of the managers, should be stated.

I am also happy to be confirmed by you in the opinion which I had before derived from all the authentic information which had reached me, that the practices to be corrected are by no means general, but are to be considered as of rare occurrence, being found "where managers and overseers, having only a temporary interest in the properties, disregard the present welfare of the labourers, and the future benefit of proprietors." It is not, however, the less necessary that no means should be left untried to prevent their occurrence, and thus to remove at once the injury to the working classes, and the reproach to the character of the community, which you so justly point out as the result of the misconduct in question. I therefore entirely approve of the purpose which you entertain of again applying to the Assembly for a remedy of the evils resulting from the imperfections of the local Abolition Act, and an enforcement by law of the usages in favour of the Negroes, which prevailed on all well-regulated plantations in the time of slavery, and, where the management has continued to be conducted in a just, liberal, and prudent spirit, have never been withdrawn.

I trust that your influence with the legislature will prove effectual for the object which you have in view; and should this be the case, you will have the satisfaction of having been instrumental in conferring a most important benefit on the apprentices, and of applying an effectual remedy to the main defect in the existing law. I shall await your report of the result of your representations, with the earnest hope that it may be unnecessary to invoke the aid of Parliament in a case in which it is on every account most desirable that the local legislature should promptly and cheerfully discharge the duty which primarily belongs to it.

I cannot dismiss from consideration the specific cases now before me, without taking this opportunity of recording, that it has not been for want of repeated efforts on the part of Her Majesty's Government to obtain an amendment of the law that it has been found, down to the date of these cases, to be still unavailable for the correction of such abuses as those which form the subject of this correspondence.

In my despatch, No. 84. of the 29th August 1835, I urged an amendment of the law, by which the ill-treatment of women in gaols might be prevented.

In my despatch, No. 125, of the 15th October 1835, I desired that the Assembly should be reminded of the pressing importance of enactments to secure the attendance of the children of apprentices at schools.

In my despatch, No. 257, of the 24th April 1836, I seconded the wishes of the Marquis of Sligo for laws to restrain cruelty in hospitals, and to authorize the inspection of them by special justices at all hours. A committee of the Assembly alleged, it is true, that the right to inspect was not disputed; but I find by the despatches now before me, that the attendance and proper treatment of the sick is not yet secured by law, although defects of the law on this head were pointed to by Lord Stanley at the very beginning of the apprenticeship, in his despatch of the 20th February, 1834, No. 3.

In my despatch, No. 285, of the 14th June 1836, I desired that the Assembly should be applied to for a law to restrain the powers of officers in workhouses to the infliction of such punishments only as should have been authorized in writing by a magistrate.

In my despatch, No. 303, of the 28th June 1836, I directed application to be made to the Assembly for a law to prevent the flogging of women on the treadmill.

In my despatches, Nos. 87 and 103, of the 29th April and 10th June 1837, I had to regret the refusal of the Assembly to entertain the various proposals which you had brought before them, for supplying deficiencies in the Abolition Act, and for the obtaining uniformity in the distribution of the hours of labour; and in my despatch, No. 176, of the 31st of last month, I was under the necessity of issuing such instructions as had become necessary, in consequence of the Assembly having failed to adopt the recommendation of the Committee of the House of Commons in the session of 1836, respecting amendments in the law which governs the valuation of apprentices for the purchase of their discharge.

In my despatch, No. 99, of the 25th of May of this year, I desired that the Assembly should be called on to exempt the apprentices from the operation of certain enactments respecting vagrants. I have yet to learn whether this application has shared the fate of those previously enumerated.

It is with serious regret and concern that I have found myself under the necessity of reverting thus specifically to a succession of ineffectual attempts to obtain requisite amendments of the law in Jamaica; but the continual recurrence of abuses, to the prevention of which many of those attempts were directed, imperatively requires that I should discharge myself of the responsibility which would attach to me, if I did not once more convey through you to the Assembly of Jamaica an earnest exhortation that they will not allow the period of apprenticeship to expire without anything being effectually done by their own intervention, to mitigate grievances which, while they must exasperate the minds of the apprentices, cannot fail to be attended with serious injury to the future interests of their employers.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg.*

— No. 69. —

(No. 141.)

No. 69.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K. C. B.,
to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

King's House, 20 July 1837.

In reporting upon the tranquillity of the island and the general industry of the apprenticed population, it gives me great concern to inform your Lordship that the negroes are suffering much from the want of ground provisions in some parishes, amounting almost to famine.

This has been the consequence of drought in the beginning of the planting season; and though many attribute the neglect of their provision grounds as the cause of scarcity, I am of opinion it has been principally owing to an unfortunate season, affecting all classes.

By the end of next month the new-ground provisions will be available, and there is every prospect of abundance.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Lionel Smith.*

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— No. 70. —

(No. 13.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B., to
Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 70.

My Lord,

Spanish Town, 17 January 1838.

I HAVE great pleasure in reporting to your Lordship that the Christmas holidays have passed over in perfect tranquillity, and in the best understanding between masters and apprentices on all well-regulated properties. Nowhere has there been the least manifestation of combination against a return to labour, even where they were unkindly denied general indulgences.

I am delighted to say there has been this Christmas a considerable decrease of followers in those disgusting Bacchanalian processions in the towns, the remains of African superstition and slave policy, and I attribute this improvement to the increase of Christian knowledge.

Above all, it is with sincere pleasure I point your Lordship's attention to the great diminution of complaints in the Apprenticeship Reports. The almost general disuse of flogging, and also a milder system of treatment towards the apprentices, is in progress by those who are entitled to their services; still our Abolition Law presents constant impediments to universal amelioration.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Lionel Smith*.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE.

— No. 71. —

(No. 197.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K. C. B., to
Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 71.

My Lord,

Spanish Town, 31 October 1837.

THE sessions of the island legislature opened on the 24th instant, and I do myself the honour to annex hereto, for your Lordship's information, a copy of my speech on the occasion.

I have likewise the honour to transmit copies of the several addresses of the Council and House of Assembly, with my replies.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Lionel Smith*.

Enclosures in No. 71.

(No. 1.)

THE GOVERNOR'S OPENING SPEECH.

Gentlemen of the Council,

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the Assembly,

THE important events which have occurred in our parent country since I last met the legislature induced me to lose no time in appealing to the constituency of the island; and I have now great pleasure in meeting this General Assembly on the earliest day consistent with the public welfare and your convenience.

Enclosures in
No. 71.

The people of Jamaica, yielding to no class of subjects in loyalty, will mourn the loss of a Sovereign who had attached himself to the colony from his early youth, and who remained during his eventful reign warmly animated by the most anxious wishes for its prosperity and welfare. You will, I am persuaded, participate in those universal feelings of sorrow occasioned by his death, and in the severe affliction which has thus overtaken his amiable consort.

By this bereavement Providence has called to the throne of her ancestors our most gracious Sovereign Queen Victoria, whose accession has been hailed by the loyal devotion of all classes of her subjects, estimated by the virtues which adorn her character, and favour the auspices of a glorious and happy reign.

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the Assembly,

I shall take the earliest opportunities of laying before you the views of Her Majesty's Government with regard to the office of Receiver-general, and their suggestions respecting our whole prison system, and the future disposal of convicts. I shall resort with confidence to you for such supplies as are necessary for the support of the public service.

Gentlemen of the Council,

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the Assembly,

On my first meeting the legislature, I brought such subjects to their notice as I considered of paramount importance; and I had the satisfaction of witnessing last session an anxious desire on your part to improve the religious condition of the Negro population. Subsequent experience in your local affairs has not diminished my confidence on that and other subjects, particularly that you will receive from me, with your usual liberality, such suggestions as I may, in the course of the sessions, have to propose to you for the improvement of the future interests of masters and apprentices, so as to remove those frequent causes of collision which now disturb the well-working of the system. I know of nothing so important to the welfare of the colony as to soften down any defects or injurious practice of the law, as the means of securing the successful transition of apprenticeship to unrestricted freedom.

The details of these matters are too minute to trouble you with here, but they will form subjects of distinct appeal to your calm consideration.

Notwithstanding the severe drought under which the island suffered so many months, and the consequent scarcity of provisions amongst the labouring classes, I am happy in being able to record my testimony to the orderly and peaceable demeanour of our peasantry; and I trust in Providence that the present favourable season will fully realize the promises of abundance.

I look forward with pleasure, gentlemen, that all your deliberations will be directed to the general welfare, and that you will be desirous to aid in those objects of liberal policy which influence Her Majesty's Government in furtherance of the momentous changes now in progress.

JAMAICA.

(No. 2.)

"Jamaica," Ss.

To his Excellency Sir Lionel Smith, Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Military Order of the Bath, Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Hanoverian Order, a Lieutenant-General in Her Majesty's Land Forces, and Colonel of the 40th Regiment of Foot, Captain-General, Governor in Chief, and Commander of the Forces in and over Her Majesty's Island of Jamaica, and other the Territories thereon depending in America, Chancellor and Vice-Admiral of the same, &c. &c.

The humble Address of the Council.

May it please your Excellency,

WE, the Council of Jamaica, request your Excellency to accept our thanks for the speech with which you have been pleased to open the present session; and we acknowledge your Excellency's assembling the legislature on a day consistent with the public welfare and our convenience.

We are fully aware that the people of Jamaica, yielding to no class of subjects in loyalty, do most sincerely mourn the loss of a Sovereign who had so remarkably attached himself to the colony, and who remained so warmly animated for its prosperity and welfare during his eventful reign; and we beg leave to tender our heartfelt participation in those feelings of sorrow occasioned by his death, and for the severe affliction which has thus overtaken his amiable consort.

Under so great a calamity our consolation is only to be found in the accession of our most gracious Queen Victoria to the throne of her ancestors, which has been hailed by the loyal devotion of her subjects, thus truly estimating the virtues which adorn her character, and which are auspicious of a glorious and a happy reign.

We beg leave to assure your Excellency that the Council continue animated by the most anxious desire to improve the religious condition of the Negro population, and that any suggestions your Excellency may be pleased to make to them on that or any other subject shall receive their best attention, confident that the future interests of master and apprentice can only be secured by removing those causes of collision which may disturb the present working of the system, and by remedying any defects in the law, endeavour to secure so desirable an end as the successful transition from apprenticeship to unrestricted freedom.

We are happy to learn from your Excellency that the conduct of our peasantry has been so orderly and peaceable during the severe drought under which this island has suffered and we trust in Providence our present promises of abundance may be realized.

We assure your Excellency that all our deliberations shall be directed towards securing the general welfare; and the Council are most anxious, in attaining that object, to aid Her Majesty's Government in furthering the important changes now in progress.

Passed the Council this 25th day of October 1837.

(signed) *W. G. Stewart*, Clerk to the Council.

(True copy.)

T. R. Warren, Secretary.

(No. 3.)

Gentlemen of the Council,

I RETURN you my best thanks for your address, and for the assurances it contains of your readiness to receive any suggestions I may have to make to you during the session.

I am confident of your support in aiding Her Majesty's Government to accomplish the great and important change now in progress, in such a manner as to secure the aim of all our labours—the general welfare and prosperity of this valuable colony.

(No. 4.)

WE, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Assembly of Jamaica, thank your Excellency for your speech at the opening of the session, and we duly appreciate the consideration evinced by your Excellency in convening this General Assembly on the earliest day consistent with the public welfare and our convenience.

Animated as we ever were with the warmest feelings of loyalty to his late Majesty, we join your Excellency with great sincerity in mourning the loss of a Sovereign who had attached himself to the colony from his early youth, and who manifested during his eventful reign his deep anxiety for its prosperity and welfare. We cannot, therefore, but participate in those universal feelings of sorrow occasioned by his death, and in the severe affliction which has thus overtaken his amiable consort.

While we deplore the demise of our late King, it is to us a source of consolation that Providence has called to the throne of her ancestors our most gracious Sovereign Queen Victoria, whose accession has been hailed by the loyal devotion of all classes of her subjects, and whose virtues form the auspices of a glorious and happy reign.

The

The views of Her Majesty's Government with regard to the office of the Receiver-general shall have our best attention; and their suggestions respecting our prison system, and the future disposal of convicts, shall obtain that consideration which matters of such importance demand.

We always have been, and are still ready and willing, as far as the limited resources of the colony will permit, to furnish the requisite means for the public service. We cannot, however, avoid expressing our disappointment that Her Majesty's Government should have disallowed the Act passed last session laying a duty on imports. The House, under the altered circumstances of the colony, had confidently looked forward to this legitimate source of revenue as one of the principal means for the future support of the government.

We are anxious, as we ever have been, to improve the religious condition of the Negro population, and we trust that the continued experience of your Excellency in our local affairs will in no way diminish that confidence which your Excellency has been pleased to express towards us. All suggestions which your Excellency may deem it necessary to make during the present session shall meet with our attentive consideration, and we beg to assure your Excellency the most liberal construction shall always be put upon them.

We regret that any collision to disturb the relations between master and apprentice should have arisen, and we concur in the opinion of your Excellency, that nothing is so important to the welfare of the colony as to soften down any defects or injurious practice of the law as the means of securing a successful transition from apprenticeship to unrestricted freedom.

In adding our testimony to the generally peaceable demeanour of our peasantry during the scarcity of provisions occasioned by the late drought, we sincerely join your Excellency in the hope that the recent favourable seasons may fully realize the promises of abundance.

Your Excellency may rely that our deliberations shall be directed to the general welfare, and that we shall at all times be ready to aid Her Majesty's Ministers in such objects of liberal policy as may appear in our judgment calculated to meet the momentous changes now in progress.

Passed the Assembly, this 26th day of October 1837.

(signed) *R. Barrett*, Speaker.

(No. 5.)

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the Assembly,

I THANK you most heartily for your address, and for the assurances it contains of your readiness to receive any suggestions I may have to offer for your consideration during the session.

I am confident of your support in aiding Her Majesty's Government to accomplish the great and important change now in progress, in such a manner as to secure the aim of all our labours—the general welfare of the colony; and have the firmest reliance on your zeal and industry in advancing such measures as in your wisdom you may deem conducive to its prosperity.

— No. 72. —

(No. 199.)

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K.C.B., to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Jamaica, Spanish Town, 2 November 1837.

No. 72.

I HAVE the honour to enclose a copy of my proposals for the amendment of certain clauses of the Abolition Law, materially bearing on the welfare of the apprentices, which your Lordship will find alluded to in my opening address to the legislature. Governor's Message.

The proposals were laid before the House of Assembly the day before yesterday; and I shall lose no time in transmitting their reply as soon as received.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Lionel Smith*.

JAMAICA.

Enclosure in No. 72.

Sir *Lionel Smith's* MESSAGE to the ASSEMBLY.

Mr. Speaker,

Enclosure in
No. 72.

I AM commanded by his Excellency the Governor to lay before the house the suggestions alluded to in his late address, on which he is desirous to recommend amendments to such of the laws or practices as have been found by the records of the special magistrates the principal causes of complaints among the apprentices, and of consequent collision between the planters and magistrates.

In these suggestions, his Excellency proposes nothing which can materially tend to increase expenses not already established by laws or usage.

Prudent and humane planters have already adopted what is recommended, and their properties present the good working of this system in peace and industry, without their resorting to the authority of the special magistrates; but there are other properties where neither the law of apprenticeship nor the usages of slavery have been found sufficient to guard the rights of the apprentices.

1st. The magistrates' reports show that on some estates the apprentices have been deprived of cooks and water-carriers while at work in the field; thus the time allowed for breakfast, instead of being a period of rest, is one of continued labour, as they have to seek for fuel and to cook.

The depriving them of water-carriers is still more injurious, as the workmen are not allowed to quit their rows to obtain it. Both these privations are detrimental to the planter's work.

2d. A law seems wanting to supply the estates' hospitals with sufficient attendants on the sick apprentices, as well as for the supply of proper food, as they cannot depend on their own grounds whilst unable to leave the hospitals. The 16th clause of the Abolition Law has not been found strong enough to secure these necessary attentions to the sick.

3d. In regard to jobbers, more exposed to hardships than any other class, a law is greatly required, allowing them the distance they may have to walk to their work, at the rate of three miles an hour, and for compelling the parties hiring them to supply them with salt food and meal. Their grounds are oftentimes so many miles distant it is impossible for them to supply themselves; hence constant complaints and irregularities.

4th. The mothers of six children and upwards, pregnant women, and the aged of both sexes, would be greatly benefited by a law enforcing the kind treatment which they received in slavery, but which is now considered optional, or is altogether avoided on many properties.

5th. Nothing would tend more to promote general contentment and repress the evils of comparative treatment than the issue of "fish" as a right by law. It was an indulgence in slavery seldom denied, but on many properties is now withheld, or given for extra labour instead of wages.

6th. His Excellency, during the last session, had the honour to address a message to the house for a stronger definition of working-time. The clause of the Act in aid expresses that it was the intention of the legislature to regulate "uniformity" of labour; but in practice there is still a great diversity of system; the legal adviser of the Crown considers the Act in aid binding. The special magistrates cannot, therefore, adjudicate on disputes of labour under the eight-hours' system, and the consequences have been, continual complaints and bickerings between the magistrates and managers, and discontent among the apprentices, by comparison of the advantages which one system presents over the other.

7th. If your honourable house would adopt some equitable fixed principle for the value of apprentices desirous of purchasing their discharge, either by ascertained rates of weekly labour, or by fixed sums, according to their trades or occupations, which should not be exceeded, and allowing the deduction of one third from the extreme value for the contingencies of maintenance, clothing, medical aid, risks of life and health, it would greatly tend to set at rest one cause of constant disappointment.

In proportion as the term of apprenticeship draws to a close, the demands for the sale of their services have generally increased.

It is in the hope that the honourable house will be disposed to enforce a more general system of equal treatment that his Excellency now circumstantially represents what have been the most common causes of complaint and discontent among the apprentices; and the island is subject to the reproach that the Negroes in some respects are now in a worse condition than they were in slavery.

(True copy.)

S. R. Warren.

(No. 197.)

— No. 73. —

No. 73.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *L. Smith*, K.C.B.

Sir,

Downing-street, 29 December 1837.

I HAVE received your despatch, No. 199, of the 2d November, enclosing a copy of your proposals for the amendment of certain clauses of the Abolition Law of Jamaica materially bearing on the welfare of the apprentices, and which had

had been generally alluded to in your address to the legislature at the commencement of its present session.

As I have as yet received no information of the spirit in which your suggestions were received, I limit myself at present to an expression of my earnest hope that the legislature will evince its sincere desire to co-operate with Her Majesty's Government in the removal of those defects which experience has discovered in the Abolition Law of Jamaica, by a cordial acquiescence in the proposals which you have felt it your duty to submit to them.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg.*

— No. 74. —

(No. 208.)

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K. C. B., to Lord *Glenelg*, dated Spanish Town, 13 November 1837.

No. 74.

YOUR Lordship will not be surprised that the agitation of the apprenticeship question in England, founded on Joseph Sturge's hasty visit to Jamaica, occasioned considerable anxiety among the planters whether it would be continued or removed.

Your Lordship saw that I cautiously avoided any allusion to such a question in my speech on the opening of the session; but it was taken up in the house very early, and I have the honour to enclose your Lordship a copy of the debates, which I am sorry to say terminated in the imprudent resolution of shutting out every further discussion on the subject, emanating from whatever quarter it might.

Jamaica Gazette,
28 October 1837.

I believe all parties would be glad to abandon the system to-morrow for further compensation. When asked my opinion on that subject, I have deprecated its absurdity, because I felt convinced no ministry could go to Parliament for an additional grant towards Negro freedom; or would it, in my opinion, be desirable, if we could get the local Abolition Law revised and improved. As it stands, I denounce it the worst law of all the late slave colonies.

I am happy to assure your Lordship, that amidst a great deal of oppression over the Negroes, which I cannot always control and punish, still the great mass of our population are, I thank God, going on peaceably, and your Lordship may rely on my constant exertions to protect them in all their just rights.

— No. 75. —

(No. 222.)

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Lionel Smith*, K. C. B., to Lord *Glenelg*, dated Spanish Town, 24 November 1837.

No. 75.

REFERRING your Lordship to the messages which I early sent to the present House of Assembly, in view to the correction of certain clauses of the Abolition Law bearing oppressively upon the apprentices, I am sorry to inform your Lordship that I have no hope left that they will correct the evils I exposed to them to ensure more just laws for the remaining apprenticeship.

Your Lordship will see that I cannot report officially on the subject till I get the official answer, but I thought it desirable to give your Lordship the earliest information on what I am assured will be the fate of my anxious endeavours to have the laws ameliorated, that your Lordship may make up your mind, and instruct me for my further guidance, when the subject is brought before you in a more tangible shape

TABLE (B.)

RETURN of the Number and Effect of the RETURNS OF PUNISHMENTS, received by the Governor of Jamaica from the Special Magistrates, from the 1st May to the 31st of July 1837.

Colony.	Date.	Total Number of Apprentices throughout the Island.	Total Number of Punishments inflicted under the authority of Special Magistrates throughout the same.	Proportion per cent. of Punishments to Apprentices.	Total Number of Males Punished.		Total Number of Females punished.	The Average Number of Stripes inflicted in Cases of Punishment by Whipping.	The Maximum Number of Stripes inflicted in any one Case of Punishment by Whipping.	The Maximum of Severity in any one Case of Punishment by Confinement.	The Maximum of Severity in any other Mode of Punishment.
					By Whipping.	Otherwise than by Whipping.					
JAMAICA.	1837 : May -	237,190	1,997	$\frac{7}{8}$	282	855	860	25	50	3 months	-- 6 months treadmill, alternate days, for 10 minutes each day. -- 3 months hard labour, house of correction. -- 3 months house of correction, and penal gang. 30 days treadmill.
	June -	253,260	2,100	$\frac{7}{8}$	140	954	1,006	20	39	1 month -	
	July -	252,398	1,895	$\frac{3}{4}$	176	849	870	20	50	1 month -	
	August -	245,305	1,188	$\frac{1}{2}$	105	585	498	25	39	3 months	

APPENDIX.

COLONIAL LAWS.

JAMAICA.

- No. 1.—JAMAICA.—An Act to Organize a Police.—Passed 17 December 1836 - - - p. 334
- No. 2.—JAMAICA.—An Act to Organize a Police.—Passed 18 December 1837 - - - p. 336
- No. 3.—JAMAICA.—An Act for the Classification of the Apprenticed Labourers.—Passed 4 March
1837 - - - - - p. 339
- No. 4.—JAMAICA.—An Act to continue in force for a limited period an Act, intituled, “ An Act for
the further Regulation of the Service and Execution of Process, and the Returns thereof,
and rendering the Duty of Jurors more equal; for empowering the Supreme Court of
Judicature to grant Special Juries; for granting a daily Subsistence to Crown Witnesses
confined in Gaol for want of Security, and for other purposes;” and to amend the
22d Clause of the said Act, and to legalize the Fees of the Clerk of the Crown.—
Passed 17 December 1836 - - - - - p. 340

A P P E N D I X.
COLONIAL LAWS.

JAMAICA.

JAMAICA.

Colonial Laws.

Appendix, No. 1.

Appendix, No. 1.

Enclosure in Governor Sir *L. Smith's* Despatch, 30 December 1836. No. 1.

7 Will. IV. c. 23.—AN ACT to organize a Police.—Passed 17 December 1836.

No. 3,239.

Preamble.
The Governor to
form a police as
herein described.

WHEREAS it is expedient to continue a Police : Be it therefore enacted, by the Governor, Council and Assembly of this your Majesty's Island of Jamaica, and it is hereby enacted and ordained by the authority of the same, that the Governor, or person administering the government of this island for the time being, be and he is hereby empowered to form a Police, with an establishment as follows; viz. 11 Inspectors, with a salary of 500 *l.* per annum, in full of pay and all other contingencies; 36 Serjeants, at 100 *l.* per annum, in full of pay and rations; 36 Corporals, at a salary of 75 *l.* per annum, in full of pay and rations; and 436 Privates, at 20 *s.* per week, in full of pay and rations; the clothing for serjeants, corporals and privates not to exceed 3 *l.* per annum; medicine and medical attendance on serjeants, corporals and privates not to exceed one pistole each per annum.

Schedule of police
stations.

And be it enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that the number of stations for the said police for each parish shall be according to the following Schedule; the rent for each and every station in any of the said parishes not to exceed 70 *l.* per annum.

SCHEDULE.

PARISHES.	Stations.	Number of Stations.	Ser- jeants.	Cor- porals.	Privates.	Inspec- tors.	
St. Thomas-in-the-East	3	{ No. 1 - 2 - 3	1 1 1	1 1 1	12 12 12	1	St. Thomas-in-the-East.
Portland - - -	1	{ - -	1	1	12		
St. George - - -	2	{ No. 1 - 2	1 1	1 1	12 12	1	Portland and St. George.
St. Mary - - -	3	{ No. 1 - 2 - 3	1 1 1	1 1 1	12 12 12	1	St. Mary.
St. Ann - - -	3	{ No. 1 - 2 - 3	1 1 1	1 1 1	12 12 12	1	St. Ann.
Trelawney - - -	2	{ No. 1 - 2	1 1	1 1	12 12		
St. James - - -	2	{ No. 1 - 2	1 1	1 1	12 12	1	Trelawney and St. James.
Hanover - - -	2	{ No. 1 - 2	1 1	1 1	12 12		
Westmorland - - -	2	{ No. 1 - 2	1 1	1 1	12 12	1	Hanover & Westmorland.
St. Elizabeth - - -	2	{ No. 1 - 2	1 1	1 1	12 12		
Manchester - - -	2	{ No. 1 - 2	1 1	1 1	12 12	1	- - St. Elizabeth and Man- chester.
Vere - - -	1	{ - -	1	1	12		
Clarendon - - -	2	{ No. 1 - 2	1 1	1 1	12 12	1	Vere and Clarendon.
St. John - - -	1	{ - -	1	1	12		
St. Thomas-in-the-Vale	1	{ - -	1	1	12	1	{ St. John and St. Thomas- in-the-Vale.
St. Catherine - - -	1	{ - -	1	1	12		
St. Dorothy - - -	1	{ - -	1	1	12	1	{ St. Catherine and St. Do- rothy.
St. Andrew - - -	2	{ No. 1 - 2	1 1	1 1	12 12		
St. David - - -	1	{ - -	1	1	12	1	- - St. Andrew, St. David and Port Royal.
Port Royal - - -	2	{ No. 1 - 2	1 1	1 1	12 12		

And

And be it enacted, that the Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor for the time being, be authorized to draw on the Receiver-general for such sum or sums as may become necessary for procuring barrack accommodation for the use of the said police, not exceeding the sum of 70 *l.* for each station.

The Governor to draw on the Receiver-general for the expense of barrack accommodation, not exceeding 70 *l.* for each station

And be it enacted, and the Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor, is hereby authorized to appoint a person whose duty it shall be to audit the accounts and conduct the correspondence connected with the establishment of the police, at a salary of 300 *l.* per annum.

Governor to appoint an auditor;

And be it further enacted, that the Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor, be authorized and empowered to frame and establish such rules and regulations as to him shall seem proper for giving effect to the purposes of this Act, and for securing the discipline of the police: Provided that under such rules and regulations no corporal punishment shall be inflicted, nor shall any sentence extend to death, transportation, or imprisonment to hard labour in the house of correction for any period exceeding three months.

and to frame rules and regulations.

Proviso.

That no corporal punishment shall be inflicted, nor

any sentence extend to death, or transportation, or imprisonment exceeding three months.

And be it further enacted, that every inspector, serjeant, corporal, and private of police so appointed or enlisted, shall at the time of his appointment or enlistment take the following oath before any of His Majesty's justices of the peace:

Oath to be taken by the police.

"I, A. B., do swear that I will well and truly serve our Sovereign Lord the King in the office of constable and policeman, without favour, affection, malice or ill-will; that I will see and cause His Majesty's peace to be kept and preserved, and that I will prevent to the best of my power all offences against the same; and that while I shall continue to hold the said office I will, to the best of my skill and knowledge, discharge all the duties thereof, in the execution of warrants and otherwise, faithfully, according to law. So help me God."

And be it further enacted, that every non-commissioned officer or private of police, who shall refuse to obey, or shall not promptly obey, any lawful command of any officer or non-commissioned officer of the police, his superior, or any order of any magistrate or special magistrate, or shall refuse to carry into effect any punishment awarded by any such magistrate or special magistrate, shall suffer such punishment as a police-court, to be appointed by the Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor for the time being, shall award, not exceeding a fine of 10 *l.* or three months hard labour in the house of correction.

Punishment for disobeying orders.

And be it enacted, that the custos of each parish, or any magistrate thereof, holding a general or special commission of the peace, is hereby authorized to command the services of such police whenever necessary, and the inspector of any parish or parishes in command of the said police shall and he is hereby required to attend thereto, and comply with such order, or shall suffer such fine as a police court shall award, not exceeding 50 *l.* And it shall be the duty of the said police at all times to take up all vagrants or idle and disorderly persons in the parish in which they are stationed, and to quell all riots, and disperse all unlawful meetings.

Magistrates to command the services of the police.

And be it enacted, that it shall be the duty of the police, and they are hereby required, to apprehend every person and persons unlawfully armed, or having in his or their possession any arms or ammunition, without a warrant for that purpose from some magistrate of the parish in which such person shall reside, or having in his or her possession any quantity of sugar, rum, pimento, coffee, or other produce, or any canes, woods, or grass, who shall not be able to produce a permit from the proprietor, overseer, or other person in charge of the property whereon such produce was grown and manufactured, or otherwise show that he, she, or they has or have honestly become possessed of such property, and to carry such person or persons so apprehended before any magistrate of the parish or precinct, who shall detain such person or persons until he can associate with another magistrate; and such magistrates so associated shall examine into the matter, and upon conviction adjudge the party or parties offending to pay a fine not exceeding the sum of 20 *l.*, or in failure of payment of such fine, to commit such offender or offenders to labour in the house of correction for a space of time not exceeding three months: Provided always, in the event of no application from the owners of such produce, within five days, the same to be sold by order of such magistrates, and one moiety of the proceeds to be paid to the police apprehending such parties, and the other moiety to be appropriated for the poor of the parish in which such condemnation shall take place.

Duties of such police defined.

Proviso.

And be it further enacted, that if any person shall purchase or detain in his possession any arms, accoutrements, clothing, or other articles furnished to such non-commissioned officers or privates of police, under this Act, such person shall, on conviction, before any two justices of the peace of the parish in which the offence is committed, pay a fine not exceeding 10 *l.*, or be imprisoned in the common gaol or house of correction for any time not exceeding three months.

Persons purchasing articles from the policemen made subject to a fine.

And be it further enacted, that if any person shall harbour any non-commissioned officer or private of police who may have deserted from his station, or be absent from duty without leave, such person, on being thereof convicted before any two justices of the peace of the

And persons harbouring deserters liable to a fine.

Colonial Laws.
Appendix, No. 1.

provision made for
licemen and their
families who are
wounded in the
service.

parish in which the offence is committed, shall pay a fine not exceeding 50 *l.*, or be imprisoned in the common gaol or house of correction to hard labour, for any time not exceeding three months.

And be it further enacted, that every serjeant, corporal, or private policeman, who in the execution of his duty shall lose a limb or an eye, or be otherwise wounded in actual duty, so as to be rendered incapable of serving as a serjeant, corporal, or private of police, shall, upon producing a certificate from the inspector of the parish or station to which such policeman shall be attached, that he is rendered incapable to serve, be allowed an annuity of 25 *l.* currency, to be paid by the Receiver-general, so long as such person shall continue to reside in this island, and shall remain unable to do duty in the police; and if any serjeant, corporal, or private of police, shall be killed in the execution of his duty, and shall leave a widow, or child or children lawfully begotten, his widow shall be entitled to receive, during her widowhood, at the rate of 25 *l.* per annum; and in case of her marriage or death, the said annuity shall go to such child or children, until the youngest shall attain the age of 14 years; such sum or sums to be paid by the Receiver-general into the hands of the custos or senior magistrate of the parish in which such widow or children may be resident, on the production of a like certificate from the inspector of the parish in which such widow or children may be resident, to be by him paid to the said widow; or in case of the marriage or death of the said widow, to be appropriated for the support and maintenance of the said child or children.

Governor em-
powered to send,
and pay for ex-
presses on any
emergency or
alarm.

And be it enacted, that the Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor, shall be and he is hereby empowered to send expresses on any emergency or alarm, or other occasion, to any part of the said island, and to pay the persons employed in carrying such expresses at a rate not exceeding the rate of pay which is authorized by the 6th Geo. 4, c. 14, for non-commissioned officers and privates; and such sums shall be paid by the Receiver-general to the order of the Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor for the time being.

all proceedings
exempt from stamp
duties.

And be it further enacted, that no appointment, commission or any other proceedings under this Act shall be subject to any stamp duty.

the Receiver-
general to pay all
sums under order
of the Governor.
proviso.
and to give a
quarterly account
of such payments to
the commissioners of public accounts.

And be it enacted, that the Receiver-general do and he is hereby required, out of any monies in his hands belonging to the public, to pay to the order of the Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor for the time being, such sum and sums of money as may be necessary for the purposes of this Act; provided that the Receiver-general do render and give to the Commissioners of Public Accounts, quarterly, an account or statement of the several sums of money paid by him under the order of the Governor or person exercising the functions of Governor, drawn on him in pursuance of this Act.

this Act to con-
tinue in force until
the 31st of Decem-
ber 1837.

And be it enacted, that this Act shall be in force from the 31st day of December in the present year, until the 31st day of December 1837, and no longer.

Passed the Assembly this 16th day of December 1836.

(signed) *Richard Barrett*, Speaker.

Passed the Council this 16th day of December 1836.

(signed) *W. G. Stewart*, Clerk to the Council.

I consent, this 17th day of December 1836.

(signed) *Lionel Smith*.

Appendix, No. 2.

Jamaica Ss.

Appendix, No. 2.

Enclosure in Governor Sir *L. Smith's* Despatch, 20 December 1837. No. 3.

AN ACT to Organize a Police.—Passed 18 December 1837.

Preamble.

Establishment of
Police force.

WHEREAS it is expedient to continue a police: Be it therefore enacted, by the Governor, Council, and Assembly of this Your Majesty's Island of Jamaica, and it is hereby enacted and ordained by the authority of the same, that the Governor or person administering the government of this island for the time being, be and he is hereby empowered to form a police, with an establishment as follows; viz. 12 inspectors, with a salary of 500 *l.* per annum, in full of pay and all other contingencies; 36 serjeants at 105 *l.* per annum, in full of pay and rations; 36 corporals at a salary of 80 *l.* per annum, in full of pay and rations; and 436 privates at 25 *s.* per week, in full of pay and rations; the clothing for serjeants, corporals, and privates not to exceed 3 *l.* per annum; medicine and medical attendance on serjeants, corporals, and privates not to exceed two pistoles per annum.

Appointment of
Police stations.

And be it enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that the number of stations for the said police for each parish, shall be according to the following Schedule; the rent of each and every station in any of the said parishes not to exceed 70 *l.* per annum.

SCHEDULE

SCHEDULE.

PARISHES.	Stations.	Number of Stations.	Ser-jeants.	Cor-porals.	Privates.	Inspec-tors.	
St. Thomas-in-the-East	3	No. 1 - 2 - 3	1 1 1	1 1 1	12 12 12	1	St. Thomas-in-the-East.
Portland - - -	1	- -	1	1	12		
St. George - - -	2	No. 1 - 2	1 1	1 1	12 12	1	Portland and St. George.
St. Mary - - -	3	No. 1 - 2 - 3	1 1 1	1 1 1	12 12 12	1	St. Mary.
St. Ann - - -	3	No. 1 - 2 - 3	1 1 1	1 1 1	12 12 12	1	St. Ann.
Trelawny - - -	2	No. 1 - 2	1 1	1 1	12 12		
St. James - - -	2	No. 1 - 2	1 1	1 1	12 12	1	Trelawny and St. James.
Hanover - - -	2	No. 1 - 2	1 1	1 1	12 12		
Westmorland - - -	2	No. 1 - 2	1 1	1 1	12 12	1	Hanover and Westmorland.
St. Elizabeth - - -	2	No. 1 - 2	1 1	1 1	12 12		
Manchester - - -	2	No. 1 - 2	1 1	1 1	12 12	1	St. Elizabeth & Manchester.
Vere - - -	1	- -	1	1	12		
Clarendon - - -	2	No. 1 - 2	1 1	1 1	12 12	1	Vere and Clarendon.
St. John - - -	1	- -	1	1	12		
St. Thomas-in-the-Vale	1	- -	1	1	12	1	St. John and St. Thomas-in-the-Vale.
St. Catherine - - -	1	- -	1	1	12		
St. Dorothy - - -	1	- -	1	1	12	1	St. Catherine & St. Dorothy.
St. Andrew - - -	2	No. 1 - 2	1 1	1 1	12 12	1	St. Andrew.
St. David - - -	1	- -	1	1	12		
Port Royal - - -	2	No. 1 - 2	1 1	1 1	12 12	1	St. David and Port Royal.

And be it enacted, that the Receiver-general do, and he is hereby required, out of any monies in his hands belonging to the public, to pay to the order of the Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor for the time being, such sum and sums of money as may be necessary for the purposes of this Act; provided that the Receiver-general do render and give to the Commissioners of Public Accounts, quarterly, an account or statement of the several sums of money paid by him under the order of the Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor, drawn on him in pursuance of this Act.

Receiver-general to pay to the Governor such sums as may be necessary.
Proviso.

And be it enacted, that the Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor for the time being, be authorized to draw on the Receiver-general for such sum or sums as may become necessary for procuring barrack accommodation for the use of the said police, not exceeding the sum of 70*l.* for each station.

Governor empowered to draw on Receiver-general for amount necessary for barrack accommodation.

And be it enacted, that the Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor, is hereby authorized to appoint a person whose duty it shall be to audit the accounts and conduct the correspondence connected with the establishment of the police, at a salary of 300*l.* per annum.

Governor authorized to appoint a person to audit police accounts; salary 300*l.* per annum.

And be it further enacted, that the Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor, be authorized and empowered to frame and establish such rules and regulations as to him shall seem proper for giving effect to the purposes of this Act, and for securing the discipline of the police.

Governor to frame rules and regulations.

And be it enacted, that the magistrates holding either general or special commissions of the peace in their respective parishes, are hereby authorized to order on all occasions they may consider necessary, the services of the police, and the inspectors in command of the said police shall, and they are hereby required to comply with and to carry into execution all such lawful orders as they may at any time receive from such magistrates, and in failure thereof to suffer such fine, not exceeding 50*l.*, as the Court of Quarter Sessions of the parish or precinct in which the offence was committed shall upon conviction award.

Punishment on inspectors refusing to obey the lawful orders of magistrates.

And be it enacted, that every non-commissioned officer or private of police, who shall refuse to obey, or who shall not promptly obey, any such order as aforesaid, of any magistrate or special magistrate of the parish in which he shall be stationed, or who shall not

Punishment on policemen refusing to obey the orders of special or

Colonial Laws.

Appendix, No. 2.

general magistrates or their superior officers.

Policemen authorized to preserve the public peace.

Police to apprehend persons having stolen produce in their possession.

Proviso.

How produce to be disposed of when not claimed within five days.

Proviso.

Offences of an aggravated nature to be tried at the quarter sessions.

Proviso.

Apprentices having produce in their possession taken from the premises, or being the property of their master or employer, to be handed over to the special justice of the district.

The following oath to be taken on entering the police.

Form of oath.

Punishment on persons purchasing or detaining arms, &c. belonging to policemen.

Penalty on persons harbouring policemen.

Provision made for disabled policemen.

And for the wives and children of such as may be killed.

obey any lawful command of any officer, or non-commissioned officer of the police, his superior, shall be brought to trial in a summary manner, before any two justices of the peace of the parish in which the offence shall be committed; and, on conviction, be adjudged to pay a fine not exceeding 5*l.*, or punished by hard labour in the house of correction for any period not exceeding 30 days.

And be it enacted, that it shall be the duty of the police, and they are hereby required at all times to take up all vagrants, or idle and disorderly persons, and to quell all riots, and disperse all unlawful meetings, and to apprehend all and every person and persons unlawfully armed, or having in his, her, or their possession any arms or ammunition, without a warrant for that purpose from some magistrate of the parish in which such person shall reside; or having in his, her, or their possession any quantity of sugar, rum, pimento, coffee, or other produce, or any canes, wood, or grass, who shall not be able to produce a permit from the proprietor, overseer, or other person in charge of the property whereon such produce was grown and manufactured, or otherwise show that he, she, or they has or have honestly become possessed of such property, and to carry such person or persons so apprehended before the nearest justice, who shall examine into the matter, and upon conviction adjudge the party or parties offending to pay a fine not exceeding the sum of 5*l.*, or in failure of payment of such fine to commit such offender or offenders to labour in the house of correction for a space of time not exceeding 30 days; provided always, in the event of no application from the owners of such produce within five days, the same shall be sold by order of such justice, and one moiety of the proceeds to be paid to the police apprehending such parties, and the other moiety to be appropriated for the poor of the parish in which such condemnation shall take place; provided also, that if the justice, so called upon to adjudicate, shall consider the offence to be of too aggravated a nature to be dealt with in such summary manner, he shall commit the offender to be tried at the quarter sessions of the parish in which such offence was committed.

Provided always, and be it enacted, that when and so soon as it shall appear that the produce so found in the possession of any such offender, being an apprenticed labourer under the provisions of the Act for the Abolition of Slavery in this island, in consideration of compensation, and for promoting the industry of the manumitted slaves, and to declare the 52 Geo. 3, c. 155, in force in this island, was taken from the premises, or is the property of the owner, employer or person entitled to the services of such apprenticed labourer, then the jurisdiction of the local justice shall immediately cease, and the offender shall be handed over to the police, to be carried before the special justice of the district to which such apprenticed labourer belongs, to be dealt with according to law.

And be it further enacted, that every inspector, serjeant, corporal, and private of police, so appointed or enlisted, shall, at the time of his appointment or enlistment, take the following oath before any of Her Majesty's justices of the peace:

"I, A. B., do swear that I will well and truly serve our Sovereign Lady the Queen, in the office of constable and policeman, without favour or affection, malice or ill-will, and that I will see and cause Her Majesty's peace to be kept and preserved, and that I will prevent, to the best of my power, all offences against the same, and that while I shall continue to hold the said office, I will at all times carry into execution all such lawful orders as I may receive from any magistrate holding either a general or special commission of the peace; and that I will, to the best of my skill and knowledge, discharge all the duties thereof, in the execution of warrants and otherwise, faithfully, according to law.—So help me God."

And be it further enacted, that if any person shall purchase or detain in his possession any arms, accoutrements, clothing, or other articles furnished to such non-commissioned officers or privates of police, under this Act, such person shall on conviction before any two justices of the peace of the parish in which the offence is committed, pay a fine not exceeding 10*l.*, or be imprisoned in the common gaol or house of correction, for any time not exceeding three months.

And be it further enacted, that if any person shall knowingly harbour any non-commissioned officer or private of police, who may have deserted from his station, or be absent from duty without leave, such person, on being thereof convicted before any two justices of the peace of the parish in which the offence is committed, shall pay a fine not exceeding 50*l.*, or be imprisoned in the common gaol or house of correction, to hard labour, for any time not exceeding three months.

And be it further enacted, that every serjeant, corporal, or private policeman, who, in the execution of his duty, shall lose a limb or an eye, or be otherwise wounded in actual duty, so as to be rendered incapable of serving as a serjeant, corporal, or private of police, shall, upon producing a certificate from the inspector of the parish or station to which such policeman shall be attached, countersigned by two known medical practitioners, that he is rendered incapable to serve, be allowed an annuity of 25*l.* currency, to be paid by the Receiver-general, so long as such person shall continue to reside in this island, and shall remain unable to do duty in the police; and if any serjeant, corporal, or private of police shall be killed in the execution of his duty, and shall leave a widow, or child, or children, lawfully begotten, his widow shall be entitled to receive during her widowhood at the rate of 25*l.* per annum; and in case of her marriage or death, the said annuity shall go to such child or children,

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children, until the youngest shall attain the age of 14 years; such sum or sums to be paid by the Receiver-general into the hands of the custos or senior magistrate of the parish in which such widow or children may be resident, on the production of a like certificate from the inspector of the parish in which such widow or children may be resident, to be by him paid to the said widow, or in case of the marriage or death of the said widow, to be appropriated for the support and maintenance of the said child or children.

And be it enacted, that the Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor, shall be, and he is hereby empowered to send expresses on any emergency, or alarm or other occasion, to any part of the island, and to pay the persons employed in carrying such expresses, at a rate not exceeding the rate of pay which is authorized by the 6 Geo. 4, c. 14, for non-commissioned officers and privates, and such sums shall be paid by the Receiver-general to the order of the Governor, or the person exercising the functions of Governor, for the time being.

And be it further enacted, that no appointment, commission, or any other proceedings under this Act, shall be subject to any stamp duty.

And be it enacted, that this Act shall be in force from the 31st day of December, in the present year, until the 31st day of December 1838, and no longer.

Passed the Assembly this 16th day of December 1837.

(signed) *Richard Barrett*, Speaker.

Passed the Council this 18th day of December 1837.

(signed) *W. G. Stewart*, Clerk to the Council.

I consent, this 18th day of December 1837.

(signed) *Lionel Smith*.

JAMAICA.

Colonial Laws.

Appendix, No. 2.

Governor empowered to send expresses in case of emergency, &c.

Appointments, &c. under this Act, exempt from stamp duty.

This Act to be in force till 31st Dec. 1838.

Appendix, No. 3.

No. 3,242.

Enclosure in Governor Sir *L. Smith's* Despatch, 13 March 1837.—No. 5.

7 Will IV. c. 31.—AN ACT for the Classification of the Apprenticed Labourers.—
Passed 4 March 1837.

Appendix, No. 3.

WHEREAS doubts may in some cases exist as to the proper classification of prædial and non-prædial apprenticed labourers under the fourth clause of the Act for the Abolition of Slavery in this island, and it is important that such doubts should be removed; be it enacted, by the Governor, Council, and Assembly of this His Majesty's Island of Jamaica, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that on or before the 1st day of June next ensuing, the proprietor, manager, or overseer of each and every plantation, pen, or other settlement, shall make out and deliver to the special justice of the district a list of the apprentices on every such plantation who have been classed as non-prædial.

Preamble.

Proprietors, &c. to furnish special magistrates with lists of prædials.

And be it enacted, that every special justice shall, within 30 days after receiving such list, personally make known to the apprenticed labourers on each such plantation, pen, or other settlement, through the constables thereon, or otherwise, the names of the persons contained in each such list, and fix a day, not less than 10 nor over 30, when he will again revisit such plantation, pen, or other settlement, and hear any further claims (if such there be) of any other person or persons who may consider themselves entitled to be classed as non-prædials.

To be made known by such magistrates to apprentices.

And be it enacted, that it shall be lawful for the special justice, with the consent in writing of the proprietor or his agent, to admit any such claim so preferred if he shall see cause; or in case it shall appear clearly unsupported, at once to dismiss the same.

Special justices to admit claims, but to dismiss improper ones.

And be it enacted, that in case the special justice, and the master or his agent, shall disagree as to the class to which any such apprenticed labourer shall properly belong, it shall be lawful for the master or his agent in such case to nominate any justice of the peace to act on his behalf, and that the decision of such general and special justice, or of any third person who they may mutually agree to appoint, shall be final.

Mode of proceeding in case of disagreement.

And be it enacted, that in case such general and special justices as aforesaid cannot agree in the choice of a third person, it shall be lawful for the master or his agent to nominate any other justice holding special commission, whose decision in the case shall be final.

Continued.

And whereas on some plantations the apprentices have been already classed; be it enacted, that nothing herein contained shall be deemed or taken to apply to any classifications which have been mutually agreed upon between master and apprentice, and sanctioned by a special justice; provided a record in writing has been kept of such classifications, or of which proof shall otherwise be adduced to the satisfaction of the special justice.

Classification already agreed upon to stand good. Proviso.

And whereas doubts may arise as to the classification of tradesmen, from the mixed character of their employment; and whereas in the classifications which were made under the instructions of the late Governor, plantation tradesmen were classed as prædials; be it enacted,

Classification of tradesmen.

JAMAICA.
Colonial Laws.
Appendix, No. 3.

Three copies of
list of prædials to
be made out and
deposited as
directed.

enacted and declared, that all tradesmen who are in the occupation of lands for their support, and who have had to their own use for the cultivation of such lands the extra time granted under the Abolition Act to the prædials, shall be classed as prædials; and that all tradesmen, whether in towns or otherwise, not allowed to occupy land, or who have not had such extra time allowed to them, shall be classed as non-prædials.

And be it enacted, that upon the list of non-prædials being ascertained and determined in manner aforesaid, on any plantation, pen, or other settlement, the master or his agent shall cause three copies of such list to be made out, and which it shall be his duty and that of the special justice to sign, one of such copies to be kept by the special justice, one by the master or agent, and the third sent to the office of the clerk of the vestry of the parish, who is hereby required to file the same for future reference; and a copy of such list or certificate so signed shall be deemed and taken to be conclusive evidence of the class to which all and every the persons whose names are therein contained shall belong; and also conclusive evidence as against the claim of any apprentice on any plantation, pen, or other settlement claiming to be a non-prædial, whose name shall not appear in any such list.

Passed the Assembly this 27th day of February 1837.

(signed) *Richard Barrett*, Speaker.

Passed the Council this 2d day of March 1837.

(signed) *W. G. Stewart*, Clerk to the Council.

I consent, this 4th day of March 1837.

(signed) *Lionel Smith*.

No. 3,233.

Appendix, No. 4.

Appendix, No. 4.

AN ACT to continue in force for a limited period an Act, intituled, "An Act for the further regulation of the Service and Execution of Process and the Returns thereof, and rendering the Duty of Jurors more equal; for empowering the Supreme Court of Judicature to grant Special Juries; for granting a daily Subsistence to Crown Witnesses confined in Goal for want of Security, and for other purposes;" and to amend the 22d Clause of the said Act, and to legalize the Fees of the Clerk of the Crown.—Passed 17 December 1836.

Preamble.

WHEREAS by the Act passed on the 9th day of June 1836, intituled, "An Act to revive and continue in force for a limited period an Act, intituled, 'An Act for the further regulation of the service and execution of process and the returns thereof, and rendering the duty of jurors more equal; for empowering the Supreme Court of Judicature to grant special juries; for granting a daily subsistence to Crown witnesses confined in gaol for want of security, and for other purposes,' and to amend the 22d clause of the said Act, and to legalize the fees of the Clerk of the Crown;" the Act, intituled, "An Act for the further regulation of the service and execution of process and the returns thereof, and rendering the duty of jurors more equal; for empowering the Supreme Court of Judicature to grant special juries; for granting a daily subsistence to Crown witnesses confined in gaol for want of security, and for other purposes," passed on the 22d day of December 1826, was revived and continued in force until the 31st day of December in the present year 1836, but will expire on that day; and whereas it is expedient that the said Act should be further continued for the period hereinafter mentioned: Be it therefore enacted, by the Lieutenant-governor, Council, and Assembly of this island, and it is hereby enacted and ordained by the authority of the same, that the said Act, intituled, "An Act for the further regulation of the service and execution of process and the returns thereof, and rendering the duty of jurors more equal; for empowering the Supreme Court of Judicature to grant special juries; for granting a daily subsistence to Crown witnesses confined in gaol for want of security, and for other purposes," and every article, clause, matter, and thing therein contained, be continued, and be and stand in as full force and effect as if the same were hereby re-enacted, until the 31st day of December 1837, and no longer.

The above recited
Act continued in
force till 31st Dec.
1837.

Clerk of Crown to
demand fees, &c.
usual.

2. And be it enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Clerk of the Crown to demand and take the fees heretofore payable to him by common usage, and on default of payment it shall be lawful for the Supreme Court to issue attachment in the same manner as it lawfully may in case of non-payment of the fees due and payable to the Provost Marshal-general of this island.

This Act may be
repealed, &c.

3. And be it enacted, that this Act may be altered, repealed, or amended during the present session.

P A P E R S

PRESENTED TO PARLIAMENT, BY

HER MAJESTY'S COMMAND,

IN EXPLANATION OF THE MEASURES ADOPTED BY
HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT,

FOR GIVING EFFECT TO THE ACT

FOR THE

ABOLITION OF SLAVERY

THROUGHOUT THE BRITISH COLONIES.

PART V.

BARBADOS AND BRITISH GUIANA.

(2.)

*(In Continuation of the Papers presented in 1835, 1836, 1837 and 1838, Nos. 177, 278 of 1835,
No. 166.—I. & II. of 1836, No. 521—I. & II. of 1837, and No. 154—I. of 1838.)*

1838.

*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
9 March 1838.*

SCHEDULE.

BARBADOS.

APPRENTICESHIP OF CHILDREN.

- No. 76.—Copy of a Despatch from Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., to Lord Glenelg, dated Government House, Barbados, 4 April 1837; (one Enclosure) - - p. 1
- No. 77.—Copy of a Despatch from Lord Glenelg to Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., dated Downing-street, 30 June 1837 - - - - - p. 2
- No. 78.—Copy of a Despatch from Lord Glenelg to Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., dated Downing-street, 29 March 1837; (one Enclosure) - - - - - p. 2
- No. 79.—Copy of a Despatch from Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., to Lord Glenelg, dated Government House, Barbados, 1 May 1837 - - - - - p. 3
- No. 80.—Copy of a Despatch from Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., to Lord Glenelg, dated Government House, Barbados, 9 May 1837; (one Enclosure) - - - - - p. 4
- No. 81.—Copy of a Despatch from Lord Glenelg to Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., dated Downing-street, 30 June 1837; (two Enclosures) - - - - - p. 9
- No. 82.—Copy of a Despatch from Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., to Lord Glenelg, dated Government House, Barbados, 12 June 1837; (15 Enclosures) - - - - - p. 11
- No. 83.—Copy of a Despatch from Lord Glenelg to Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., dated Downing-street, 31 August 1837 - - - - - p. 20
- No. 84.—Copy of a Despatch from Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., to Lord Glenelg, dated Government House, Barbados, 16 August 1837 - - - - - p. 21

SPECIAL MAGISTRATES' REPORTS.

- No. 85.—Copy of a Despatch from Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., to Lord Glenelg, dated Government House, Barbados, 20 June 1837; (seven Enclosures) - - - p. 22
- No. 86.—Copy of a Despatch from Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., to Lord Glenelg, dated Government House, Barbados, 10 July 1837; (seven Enclosures) - - - p. 29
- No. 87.—Copy of a Despatch from Lord Glenelg to Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., dated Downing-street, 14 September 1837 - - - - - p. 34
- No. 88.—Copy of a Despatch from Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., to Lord Glenelg, dated Government House, Barbados, 1 September 1837; (six Enclosures) - - - p. 35
- No. 89.—Copy of a Despatch from Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., to Lord Glenelg, dated Government House, Barbados, 24 September 1837; (seven Enclosures) - - - p. 38
- No. 90.—Copy of a Despatch from Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., to Lord Glenelg, dated Government House, Barbados, 14 October 1837; (seven Enclosures) - - - p. 41
- No. 91.—Copy of a Despatch from Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., to Lord Glenelg, dated Government House, Barbados, 28 November 1837; (seven Enclosures) - - - p. 45
- No. 92.—Copy of a Despatch from Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., to Lord Glenelg, dated Government House, Barbados, 18 December 1837; (seven Enclosures) - - - p. 48
- No. 93.—Extract of a Despatch from Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., to Lord Glenelg, dated Government House, Barbados, 27 January 1838; (eight Enclosures) - - - p. 51
- No. 94.—Copy of a Despatch from Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., to Lord Glenelg, dated Government House, Barbados, 22 February 1838; (eight Enclosures) - - - p. 55

CLASSIFICATION.

- No. 95.—Copy of a Despatch from Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., to Lord Glenelg, dated Government House, Barbados, 30 December 1837; (two Enclosures) - - - p. 60
- No. 96.—Copy of a Despatch from Lord Glenelg to Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., dated Downing-street, 14 February 1838 - - - - - p. 62

SCHEDULE—continued.

MISCELLANEOUS.

- No. 97.—Copy of a Despatch from Lord Glenelg to Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., dated Downing-street, 15 June 1837 - - - - - p. 63
- No. 98.—Copy of a Despatch from Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., to Lord Glenelg, dated Government House, Barbados, 20 July 1837 - - - - - p. 63
- No. 99.—Copy of a Despatch from Lord Glenelg to Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., dated Downing-street, 14 August 1837 - - - - - p. 63
- No. 100.—Copy of a Despatch from Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., to Lord Glenelg, dated Government House, Barbados, 20 September 1837 - - - - - p. 64
- No. 101.—Copy of a Despatch from Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., to Lord Glenelg, dated Government House, Barbados, 23 August 1837; (three Enclosures) - - - p. 64
- No. 102.—Copy of a Despatch from Lord Glenelg to Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., dated Downing-street, 14 October 1837 - - - - - p. 67
- No. 103.—Copy of a Despatch from Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., to Lord Glenelg, dated Government House, Barbados, 24 September 1837 - - - - - p. 68
- No. 104.—Copy of a Despatch from Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., to Lord Glenelg, dated Government House, Barbados, 23 October 1837 - - - - - p. 68
- No. 105.—Copy of a Despatch from Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., to Lord Glenelg, dated Government House, Barbados, 21 December 1837; (two Enclosures) - - - p. 68
- No. 106.—Copy of a Despatch from Lord Glenelg to Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., dated Downing-street, 13 February 1838 - - - - - p. 71
- No. 107.—Copy of a Despatch from Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., to Lord Glenelg, dated Government House, Barbados, 29 January 1838; (one Enclosure) - - - p. 71
- No. 108.—Copy of a Despatch from Lord Glenelg to Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., dated Downing-street, 31 January 1838; (one Enclosure) - - - - - p. 72
- No. 109.—Copy of a Despatch from Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., to Lord Glenelg, dated Government House, Barbados, 6 February 1838; (one Enclosure) - - - p. 73

TABLE (B.)

Return of Punishments from 1 June 1837 to 31 January 1838 - - - - - p. 76

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CORRESPONDENCE RELATIVE TO MR. SCOBLE'S INQUIRIES AND REPRESENTATIONS.

- No. 110.—Copy of a Despatch from Governor Sir J. C. Smyth, Bart., to Lord Glenelg, dated Camp House, Demerara, 7 April 1837; (two Enclosures) - - - - - p. 77
- No. 111.—Copy of a Despatch from Lord Glenelg to Governor Sir J. C. Smyth, Bart., dated Downing-street, 19 July 1837 - - - - - p. 80
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P A P E R S
RELATING TO THE
ABOLITION OF SLAVERY.

B A R B A D O S.
APPRENTICESHIP OF CHILDREN.

(No. 69.)

— No. 76. —

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *E. J. M. M'Gregor*, Bart., to
Lord *Glenelg*.

BARBADOS.

No. 76.

Vide Appendix,

No. 197.

No. 620.

3 April 1837.

My Lord,

Government House, Barbados, 4 April 1837.

IN transmitting the accompanying copy of an Act of this island, intituled, "An Act to repeal the 38th Clause of an Act, intituled, 'An Act for the Abolition of Slavery, for the Government of apprenticed Labourers, and for ascertaining and enforcing the reciprocal Duties between them and their Employers,'" I beg permission in the most earnest manner to recommend this enactment to the favourable consideration of your Lordship.

The clause sanctioning the apprenticeship, in certain cases, of free children of apprenticed labourers, which it is proposed to repeal, is viewed with jealous apprehension by the peasantry; and the legislature now affords the strongest proof of its being, upon that account, no less objectionable to the proprietors.

It is to be hoped, consequently, that the relinquishment of a provision in the Barbados Abolition Act will be authorized by his Majesty's Government, which, however wise in its original intent, both classes of persons practically interested in its effects are equally desirous to forego.

I have, &c.

(signed) *E. J. Murray M'Gregor*, Governor.

Barbados.

Enclosure in No. 76.

AN ACT to repeal the 38th Clause of an Act, intituled, "An Act for the Abolition of Slavery, for the Government of Apprenticed Labours, and for ascertaining the reciprocal Duties between them and their Employers."

Encl. in No. 76.

THE first clause of this Act repeals the 38th clause of the Act mentioned in the above title. The second clause of this Act declares, that it shall not be in force until his Majesty's pleasure shall be known.

The repeal of the 38th clause of the Abolition Act, intended to be affected by the above law, has been rendered almost necessary, in consequence of the injurious effects which have arisen to the free children of apprenticed labourers, chiefly from erroneous impressions engendered on their minds as to its real object; they have been made to believe that, by the terms of that clause, an indefinite prolongation of the apprenticeship system, which they were at the same time taught to consider as but another name for slavery, was intended to be sanctioned; and so firmly has this feeling become rooted in their minds that they will not permit their children to be employed or work for wages on the different estates to which they are themselves attached. The result to their children is most lamentable; they are being brought up in a state of absolute idleness; but little instruction is within the reach of the great mass of them, and, although the parents generally desire that their children should be educated, every attempt to accomplish it, on the part of the employers, has been unsuccessful, and every offer of employment for them, from the same quarter, has been rejected, and is looked on as but affording evidence of an intention to entrap them into a fresh state of slavery. It was originally proposed to alter this clause only, by taking away the power of apprenticing for 21 years, and declaring that no child should be apprenticed for a longer term than till 1840; and, I confess, I think this would have been the most judicious course,

as

BARBADOS. as the provision for any really destitute child would have been preserved. It was, however, rejected by a majority of the House of Assembly, because it was thought (and perhaps rightly) that all infants and those children who were unable to work would be forthwith apprenticed, in order to procure the provision for maintenance to which they would have thus become entitled; but, in my opinion, this would not have taken place in a single instance, as I believe that nothing would induce any one of them to apprentice any child for a single day, so strong are their feelings on this subject; and I am warranted in this conclusion from the known fact that, since August 1834, only one child out of upwards of 14,000 who became free on that day, being under six years of age, has been apprenticed, and that not under the 38th clause, as a destitute child, but, as I have been most credibly informed, because it was a favourite of the employers, who, dreading its being taken from him, if suffered to remain free, procured the consent of its parents to its apprenticeship, in order that he might retain it under his own protection. This clause, therefore, has been wholly inoperative, and its repeal will tend, more than any other measure, to remove those suspicious and erroneous impressions from the minds of the parents of these children, which offer such serious obstacles to their education and moral advancement. A suspending clause has been added to the Bill, it being deemed too important an alteration of a principle of the Abolition Act to be brought into operation without the previous sanction of his Majesty's Government, notwithstanding the clause itself has been a dead letter.

It is proper to add, that this report is, for the most part, founded on evidence taken before a joint committee of the Council and Assembly, appointed to inquire into the condition of the free children of apprenticed labourers; the investigations of the committee are not yet completed, but the result of their labours will be submitted to his Majesty's Government, in the hope of devising, with its concurrence, a proper plan for their education and employment, and of rescuing so numerous a class, destined to form the great body (at no distant day) of our labouring population, from the evils necessarily incident to a youth spent in idleness.

3 April 1837.

(signed) *R. Boucher Clarke.*

(No. 39.)

—No. 77.—

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor
Sir *E. J. M. McGregor*, Bart.

No. 77.

Sir,

Downing-street, 30 June 1837.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 69, of the 4th April last, transmitting an Act (No. 620) for repealing so much of the Colonial Act for the Abolition of Slavery as authorizes the apprenticeship of the children of apprenticed labourers.

It appears from the Solicitor-general's report which accompanied your despatch, that the whole negro population of the island have unanimously opposed themselves to the apprenticeship of their children, receiving it as nothing else than a contrivance for perpetuating slavery. Out of 14,000 children, one child only is stated to have been apprenticed, and even in that case the employer was enabled to overcome the difficulty only by circumstances of a very peculiar nature.

Under these circumstances, the colonial legislature have judged it expedient to repeal this part of the Abolition Act, with the expectation that, by so doing, the fears of the parents will be quieted as to the future freedom of their offspring, and that they will be induced to allow them to work when they can no longer be employed as apprentices. Concurring, as I do, in the opinion which you and the Solicitor-general have expressed, that this Act, which has a suspending clause, should be allowed, I shall advise Her Majesty in Council to confirm it.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg.*

(No. 24.)

—No. 78.—

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor
Sir *E. J. M. McGregor*, Bart.

No. 78.

Sir,

Downing-street, 29 March 1837.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you a copy of a letter and enclosure addressed to my Under Secretary of State, Sir G. Grey, by Mr. Fowell Buxton, representing that an attempt is making by planters in the island of Barbados to force the apprenticeship of the free children without the consent of their parents,

and

and that the Solicitor-general is endeavouring to prove that a clause in one of the local Acts will enable them to effect this object.

BARBADOS.

I have to desire that you will call on the Solicitor-general for a report upon the facts alleged by Mr. Buxton's correspondent, his Majesty's Government having repeatedly expressed their concurrence in the very decided opinions of Sir Lionel Smith, that the apprenticeship of children ought not to take place except upon the clearest proof that they cannot be adequately supported by other means. You will have the goodness to instruct the Solicitor-general to act in his public capacity on this principle, and I will observe, that it will be your duty not to assent to any law having for its object to give any increased power of compelling children, or their parents on their behalf, to enter into contracts of this kind.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Glenelg.*

Enclosure in No. 78.

(Received 27th March 1837.)

Sir,

I HAVE received a letter from Barbados, a copy of part of which I am desirous of laying before you, feeling sure that you will be as fully averse, as I am, to the apprenticeship of children contrary to the will of their parents. I hope you will take immediate notice of it, and send out strict orders to the West Indies at once. Pray excuse my earnestness on this subject, as I consider it one of vital importance.

Encl. in No. 78.

Sir Geo. Grey, Bart., M.P.
&c. &c. &c.

Believe me, &c.
T. F. Buxton.

"The planters in this island are attempting to force the apprenticeship of the free children without the consent of the parents. The Solicitor-general is endeavouring to prove that a clause in one of the local Acts, which the Colonial Office has sanctioned, will enable them to effect this; but in case this method should fail, they intend to pass another Act.

"Every effort is made to force the parents to apprentice the children, by turning the infants out of their houses into the road, stopping the molasses, on which they are partly sustained, &c.; but though we are told that the number of deaths of free children is 'frightful to relate,' yet we have heard of only one child in the whole island hitherto apprenticed. One ground alleged by the Solicitor-general for forcing the apprenticeship under a clause of the local Act is, that the parents do not educate them!! Now, in the new Moravian schools, out of 150 to 180 children, all were free on the 1st of August 1834, except two, and the parents of these two paid their master and owner for liberty to send them."

— No. 79. —

(No. 88.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *E. J. M. M'Gregor*, Bart., to
Lord *Glenelg*.

Windward Islands, Government House, Barbados,
1 May 1837.

No. 79.

My Lord,

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your Lordship's despatch of the 29th March, No. 24, in reference to a representation, erroneously communicated to your Lordship, "that an attempt is making by planters in the island of Barbados to force the apprenticeship of the free children without the consent of their parents."

With respect to your Lordship's observation, that his Majesty's Government have repeatedly expressed their concurrence in the very decided opinions of Sir Lionel Smith upon the apprenticeship of children, it may not be inconvenient to quote the Earl of Aberdeen's expressions upon this question, in a letter to Sir Lionel, of the 1st of January 1835, as follows:—

"I am constrained to express my own concurrence in the opinion that Parliament have tendered to the apprenticed labourers the choice of maintaining their own young children by the earnings of their leisure time, or of permitting those children to be bound out as apprentices. I therefore cannot condemn the local legislature for having declined to increase the amount of leisure assigned to the parents, in order that such additional time might be employed by them to rescue their children from the apprenticeship."

BARBADOS.

On my own behalf, I cannot more appropriately meet the injunction your Lordship has thought it requisite to lay upon me, "not to assent to any law having for its object to give any increased power of compelling children, or their parents on their behalf, to enter into contracts of this kind," than by adverting to the fact of my having already assented to an Act, which, if his Majesty shall be advised to sanction it, will be attended with the opposite effect of relieving your Lordship from the constraint experienced by my Lord Aberdeen in this respect, and of effectually rescuing the children of apprenticed labourers from that apprenticeship, to which, according to the statement of the noble Earl, it was the obvious intention of the imperial legislature to render them, under particular circumstances, liable and subject.

It will be the province of Mr. Clarke, the Solicitor-general, to report, in obedience to your Lordship's commands, upon the facts alleged by Mr. Buxton's correspondent, and of the Legislative Council and Assembly to act upon the occasion as the honourable board and house may deem expedient; but Mr. Powell Buxton, perhaps, may be disposed to waive the impression he has been led to adopt, in this instance, on an *ex-parte* statement, to the prejudice of the Governor, Council and Assembly of Barbados, on being made aware of my having, in a despatch of the 4th of April last, No. 69, in the most earnest manner recommended to the favourable consideration of your Lordship, "An Act to repeal the 38th Clause of an Act, intituled, 'An Act for the Abolition of Slavery, and for the Government of Apprenticed Labourers,'" &c., on the following grounds, viz.—

That "the clause sanctioning the apprenticeship in certain cases of free children of apprenticed labourers, which it is proposed to repeal, is viewed with jealous apprehension by the peasantry, and the legislature now affords the strongest proof of its being, upon that account, no less objectionable to the proprietors;" and that, "it is to be hoped, consequently, that the relinquishment of a provision in the Barbados Abolition Act will be authorized by his Majesty's Government, which, however wise in its original intent, both classes of persons partially interested in its effects are equally desirous to forego."

With every respect for Mr. Buxton's public character, it is, at any rate, an indispensable obligation on my part to avow a high sense of the liberal proceedings generally of the local legislature since my accession to this government, and to affirm that the learned gentleman now filling the office of Solicitor-general, whose zeal and assiduity as a law officer of the Crown are most commendable, is as amiable, as talented, and incapable of countenancing any design calculated to prove oppressive in its operation to the labouring population of his country.

I have, &c.

(signed) *E. J. Murray M'Gregor*, Governor.

—No. 80.—

(No. 97.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *E. J. M. M'Gregor*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 80.

My Lord,

Government House, Barbados, 9 May 1837.

May 1837.

WITH reference to my letter of the 1st instant, No. 88, I have the honour of enclosing, in further obedience to your Lordship's despatch of the 29th of March, a report received from his Majesty's Solicitor-general, "upon the facts alleged by Mr. Buxton's correspondent," relative to an attempt in this island "to force the apprenticeship of the free children without the consent of their parents."

In this report, received by me last night, Mr. Clarke correctly mentions that I suggested the addition of a suspending clause to the Act now before your Lordship, to repeal the 38th clause of the Act, intituled, "An Act for the Abolition of Slavery," and this proposal was founded on the belief that it is inexpedient to make alterations in the Abolition Act without the utmost caution, and only in cases of emergency. On adverting to my despatch of the 31st of December 1836, No. 57, the existence in my mind of this impression may be traced,

traced, it being therein remarked, "I coincide entirely in the opinion expressed by Major Colthurst, in a letter of which a copy is enclosed, that 'the fewer alterations of the original law that take place the better.'"

To this letter my recollection has been directed by a passage in the Solicitor-general's report, stating that "the condition of the free children of apprenticed labourers became," at an early period of "my" administration, the subject of "my grave consideration," and the letter referred to proves that the question came, by an inevitable process, to my notice, soon after my arrival in Barbados, through the medium of the special magistrates' reports, as it commences thus:—

"Returns from the stipendiary magistrates of Barbados, for the month of November, in reply to questions from your Lordship, are herewith forwarded.

"The interruption of intercourse between apprenticed females and their free children, the repugnance of the mothers to apprentice them, and the situation of this class of persons in general, form a most important subject, to which my attention is anxiously directed."

That Mr. Clarke has acted, in respect to the Bills introduced for the purpose of obliterating the apprenticeship clause affecting free children from the Abolition Law, with my "entire concurrence," I most readily acknowledge; and, indeed, that concurrence and approbation could not well be withheld, seeing that his efforts advanced the accomplishment of views adopted and avowed by myself before I had the honour of being nominated, through your Lordship's favourable recommendation, to the government of the Windward Islands.

After having assented to an Act for the express purpose of expunging every trace of slavery, even in the modified form of apprenticeship from Antigua, there are proofs on record, in your Lordship's office, of my recommending it in other Leeward colonies, the propriety of shortening the term of apprenticed servitude; and, on taking leave of the Dominica legislature, I publicly imparted that advice, as follows, on the 24th of August 1836:

"My earnest recommendation is renewed, that your timely attention may be bestowed upon the careful preparation of enactments calculated to meet those important alterations in colonial society, which cannot be respectively postponed beyond the years 1838 and 1840. In my humble judgment, under the peculiar circumstances of this colony, it is indeed much to be desired that these inevitable changes could be accomplished by a single effort."

That these occurrences should not be remembered in the colonial department need not excite surprise, on considering the multiplicity of its avocations; they must be quite unknown to Mr. Buxton, and are material, for the moment, solely in so far as they are calculated to evince that my concurrence would not have been accorded, nor my suggestions offered to Mr. Clarke, had he been engaged in the design imputed to him of contributing to force the apprenticeship of the free children, or, in other words, of opposing, in the instance of the children, my own repeatedly declared wishes for the emancipation of their parents, of which it appears, from the following passage of a despatch addressed to me on the 20th of July 1836, No. 65, that your Lordship once was cognizant:

"No. 65.—Montserrat.

"Sir,

"Downing-street, 20 July 1836.

"I have had the honour to receive your despatch and enclosures, No. 74, of the 14th of April, in which you describe the feeling which prevails amongst many persons in Montserrat in favour of the abolition of the remaining period of apprenticeship, and the establishment of immediate freedom.

"I have perused with much interest the report you have made on the subject, and I have no hesitation in expressing to you my concurrence in the propriety of the cautious conduct which you have observed, in not attempting to press forward the adoption of your own views before the community of Montserrat was prepared to receive them.

"I have, &c.

"Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor,"
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) "Glenelg."

Upon these grounds, my testimony, in addition to his own clear narrative, will account for the confidence reposed by me in Mr. Clarke, and, I should hope, restore him to your Lordship's, there being no doubt, as he himself submits,

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that Mr. Buxton's correspondents, however unintentionally, have mistaken the motives and misrepresented the conduct of the learned gentlemen.

Upon the present occasion, I have been reminded, by the Solicitor-general's reference to the Bill described as having been thrown out, and in lieu of which that subsequently passed has been substituted, of a private note to a member of his Majesty's Council of this island, in which I took occasion to observe, on the 30th of January last, that "the authority vested by the Abolition Act in the special magistrates, to apprentice children under certain circumstances, seems to have been designed for the protection of the peasantry against the forcible separation of families, as well as that of infants, from the injudicious proceedings of their parents. It does not, however, occur to me that it was within the contemplation of the Act by any means to sanction the general application of this power, which, if so exercised, might be equally oppressive on the employers as on the employed; and I must confess myself at a loss to account for the impression apparently entertained in some quarters, that a project exists of establishing a system of 21 years' apprenticeship amongst the free children in Barbados. But the main objection to the practical operation of the enactment arises from the prescribed length of the engagement which it sanctions, and I shall therefore witness with satisfaction any alteration of the law that may tend to render salutary the occasional exertion of the power in question, by limiting the duration of those contracts to which the special magistrates now possess the right of compelling refractory parties to submit.

"A message will apprize the Legislative Houses to-day of Lord Glenelg's sentiments upon schools; and the progress of these subsidiary measures is interesting, in as far as each respectively promises to promote the great object of placing the proprietors and working classes on an amicable footing when the period of apprenticeship expires."

This object is the unceasing aim of my personal policy, as Governor, and as it cannot fail also to be that of Mr. Buxton, I trust to be forgiven for requesting your Lordship's good offices in impressing upon that gentleman the extreme risk, by unadvisedly exerting external interference, of weakening its beneficial effects, if really required, and, at the same time, my perfect readiness to promote his measures, in whatever form communicated, that do not in any manner tend to militate against the instructions with which I am honoured by your Lordship.

I have, &c.

(signed) *E. J. Murray McGregor*, Governor.

Enclosure in No. 80.

Kingston Lodge, Barbados, 8 May 1837.

Encl. in No. 80.

IN obedience to your Excellency's desire, communicated in the accompanying memorandum, I have the honour to forward the report directed by Lord Glenelg, in his despatch of the 29 March 1837, No. 24.

Before I enter on the subject of that communication, I have to express my thanks to his Lordship for having given me an opportunity of removing the injurious impressions made against me, by the misrepresentations of the anonymous correspondent of Mr. Buxton's, and I consider myself peculiarly fortunate in being able to effect this, not only by reference to opinions expressed in public, long before I could have had any idea that such a charge was to be got up against me, but also by an appeal to facts and acts, emanating from myself, previously done in a "public capacity," (though not as a law officer of the Crown), which render the denial, on my part, of the truth of those allegations superfluous, by completely disproving them. The general charge made by Mr. Buxton's correspondent is, as stated by his Lordship, "that an attempt is making by the planters in the island of Barbados to force the apprenticeship of the free children without the consent of their parents." And the part assigned to myself, in furtherance of this alleged scheme of the planters, is, "that the Solicitor-general is endeavouring to prove, that a clause in one of the local Acts will enable them to effect this object."

That there is not a syllable of truth in this, the following statement will show; while the real facts of the case, most of which have, ere this, been officially communicated to his Lordship, will prove that, instead of its having been the object of the planters "to force the apprenticeship of the free children," their representatives in the House of Assembly have, with, I am persuaded, the concurrence of every respectable person, done all in their power to prevent any such apprenticeship, and the Solicitor-general has, as a member of that House, lent his humble aid also, not "to enable," but, in fact, to prevent them from effecting "that object."

Your

Your Excellency is aware, that the condition of the free children of apprenticed labourers has for some time occupied the anxious attention of those interested in the welfare and prosperity of the colony; that it necessarily became, at an early period of your Excellency's administration, the subject of your grave consideration, and that, in order to obtain all the information required, before any means could be devised for improving their condition, your Excellency addressed a circular to the special magistrates, calling on them to inquire into, and report to you, on their number and actual state. These inquiries, though made by the special magistrates, were received with great jealousy by the parents of these children, and, unhappily, there were not wanting either those to whose views it was more congenial to foster than to remove erroneous impressions amongst the apprenticed labourers, or those whose office it was to convey that information, however false, across the Atlantic. About the latter end of January last, I was informed that an idea was entertained by many of the apprenticed labourers, that it was intended to apprentice their free children. Knowing well their great objections to such a measure, and that such an impression would operate most injuriously if allowed to prevail among them, I felt it my duty to use every means in my power to remove it, and allay their fears on this head. On moving in the House of Assembly, on the 31st of January last, "for the appointment of a committee to inquire into the actual condition of the free children of apprenticed labourers, with a view of devising the best means of providing for their education, and promoting their welfare," I find that, in one of the island newspapers of February 2d, I am reported (and that report is sufficiently correct) to have expressed myself thus on the subject: "Before he (Mr. Clarke) sat down, he wished to say a few words on an important point connected with this question; he had heard that an idea had got abroad among the parents of these children, that it was in contemplation to enforce generally that clause of the Imperial Act for the Abolition of Slavery which had been incorporated into the Island Act, for causing the apprenticeship of these children under certain circumstances; he had been told of this impression, in a way which had induced him to believe that it was equally general and baneful; he had no hesitation in giving it the most unqualified denial, and as it was most desirable that all erroneous impressions of this nature, in the minds of the parents of these children, should be removed, he took that opportunity of contradicting it; such an idea had not, he believed, been ever entertained by any person possessing the least influence, or having any authority whatever; he was most solicitous that this impression should be done away with, because he feared that the result of the inquiry which he was about to recommend would show, that nearly all the evils to which these unfortunate children were exposed arose from wrong and unfounded impressions, chiefly on this subject, in the minds of their parents; he trusted that they would be persuaded that the only object the legislature had in view was to benefit these children, to rescue them from the curse of idleness, and, by obtaining for them the blessings of education, enable them to provide for themselves, at a future day, by honest and profitable industry."

I did not, however, content myself with this general public disavowal of any such intention; I knew that mere statements and contradictions would not be sufficient, but that something more was required to satisfy the minds of the apprenticed labourers. I therefore determined effectually to set the question at rest by an Act of the legislature, altering the 38th clause of the Abolition Law, which sanctioned the apprenticeship of the children, when destitute, and declaring that no child apprenticed under it should continue in a state of apprenticeship beyond the 1st of August 1840; and the next time the House met, on the 21st of February last, I introduced a Bill to effect this object; my remarks, and indeed the whole debate, as reported in a newspaper of the 27th of February, sufficiently explained my object and the feeling of the House, and are as follows:

(No. 1.)

"Mr. Clarke rose to introduce a short but most important Bill.

"By the 38th clause of the Island Slavery Abolition Act, taken exactly from the Imperial Act, the stipendiary magistrates had the power to bind the free children of apprenticed labourers whose parents were unable to maintain them, until such children reached the age of 21 years. This clause was one which, amongst the parents of these children, had given rise to an impression equally fallacious as unfounded; they looked upon it as being calculated and intended to perpetuate slavery under the name of apprenticeship. To attempt to remove this absurd prejudice by arguments, or a plain statement of facts, would be unavailing; the one they would not understand, the other they would not believe. He knew it was the sincere wish of every member of the House to see the condition of the large class of free children of apprentices bettered, and that they should not be allowed to continue in their present state of idleness and vagabondage; but he felt that nothing effectual could be done until the erroneous impression which now existed in their minds was removed, and which was at present a stumbling-block in the way of every measure that could be proposed for their advantage. To give the parents of these children correct views on the subject was the duty of the House. The House had received praise from each successive Secretary for the good faith which they had evinced throughout the whole measure of slavery abolition; but one thing was still wanted to convince the apprenticed population of their good feeling, and that they had no desire to renovate slavery; and this object, he was fully persuaded, could only be effected by the House consenting to the Bill which he held in his hand, which repealed so much of the 38th clause of the Abolition Act as authorized the special magistrates to bind the children of apprentices until the age of 21, and substitute in lieu a provision, limiting the term of such apprenticeship to the year 1840. As argument was not in fashion nowadays for the removal of absurd impressions and prejudices, he proposed to remove them by law. The honourable member concluded by moving that this Bill be read.

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"Dr. Bascom seconded the motion; and the Bill was accordingly read three times, and the question for passing put, when Mr. Corben objected to the measure, as calculated to impose a great responsibility and expense upon employers without any corresponding benefit. That under this law the mother of every infant now in the colony, or which may hereafter be born, would immediately come forward and apprentice them to their master, who would then be compelled to feed, clothe and care them for three years, during which time they would be perfect burthens to him; whereas not one single child would be apprenticed by them who was old enough to perform the slightest labour, or be of the most trifling service.

"Mr. Clarke contended, that the amendment he proposed would cause little or no alteration with regard to apprenticing, but it would effect the great object of removing an erroneous impression from the minds of parents, which was doing the colony a material injury. With respect to its increasing the burthens of proprietors, he could not see that it would do any such thing; there was not a proprietor in the island who would refuse to support the children of any labourer who applied to him to do so; and this enactment would only legalize the practice, which is now universally acted upon.

"Dr. Bascom supported the Bill very ably; the abolition of slavery had not made any difference in the manner in which the children were treated on his property, and he thought the same might be said with regard to almost every estate in the colony; the great object now was to educate the children, and the present Bill was the first step to remove the erroneous impression alluded to by the honourable and learned member for St. Michael's, and which, if suffered to exist, would oppose almost insurmountable obstacles to the success of their project—(several honourable members were for repealing the clause altogether; but Mr. Clarke declared, he would rather lose his Bill than consent to the proposal)."

My reasons for objecting on that day to amend the Bill, so as totally to repeal the clause, were, that I deemed it too important an alteration of a principle of the Abolition Act (and one, the object of which might very easily have been misunderstood, and would, most certainly, have been misrepresented) to feel myself authorized, as law officer of the Crown, in advising your Excellency to give your assent to it, without the previous sanction of his Majesty's Government, and as it would have been wholly inconsistent in me to have agreed to it in the House, and objected at my chambers, I let the Bill take its chance, and it was lost on the third reading by a majority of one. Being, however, still deeply impressed with the importance of removing these impressions by law, and knowing that the clause, as a provision for destitute children, had been a dead letter, I agreed to the total repeal of it at the next meeting of the House, on condition of a suspending clause being added, having, as your Excellency cannot fail to remember, been previously informed that you thought such a course desirable.

(No. 2.)

The Act subsequently passed the Council, was assented to by your Excellency, and transmitted to the Colonial Office, with my official report thereon, of the 3d of April last (a copy of which is annexed), on reference to which his Lordship will find that I felt the subject to be a most important one, and that I expressed my decided conviction, that abolishing the power of apprenticing these children, under any circumstances, "will tend more than any other measure to remove those suspicious and erroneous impressions from the minds of the parents of these children, which offer such serious obstacles to their education and moral advancement."

That this has been my sole object, your Excellency is well aware; as also, that I have acted throughout with your Excellency's entire concurrence; and I trust I shall be permitted to add, at no distant day, with his Lordship's approval also; for when he shall have been made acquainted with the above facts (which could not have been invented, and cannot be explained away), I feel gratified in the assurance that his Lordship will perceive that I have been actively engaged in accomplishing the very reverse of what I am accused by Mr. Buxton's correspondent of intending.

So far in justification of myself from the charge as understood and conveyed in his Lordship's despatch; but although I fear I have already tasked your Excellency's patience, I cannot omit to notice the information conveyed to Mr. Buxton. I can assure your Excellency, that the first time I ever heard of "the planters in this island attempting to force the apprenticeship of the free children;" the first knowledge I ever had of my own attempts to prove it practicable under a local Act, and the first intimation that "in case this method should fail, they intend to pass another Act," was when I had the honour of receiving his Lordship's despatch and its enclosures, announcing these events on the authority of Mr. Buxton's correspondent.

I also learned for the first time, from the same source, of the "efforts made and the means employed" to force the parents to apprentice their children, and which I am sure I could not have been ignorant of such attempts, if they had been made. I trust that your Excellency knows, and his Lordship will be persuaded, that they would have met my most decided opposition; because I am certain they would have produced irritation and dissatisfaction on the part of the apprenticed labourers towards their employers, between whom it is of the first importance to preserve the most friendly feelings.

I confess, however, I am induced to despair of accomplishing that good for these unfortunate children which I have most anxiously desired, as I cannot but feel disheartened when I find my endeavours to promote their welfare made the groundwork of charges of an opposite tendency against me, and perverted into proof of a desire on my part to oppose the policy of his Majesty's Government, and though founded on the communication of an anonymous correspondent, so far credited by his Lordship as to produce what I cannot but

but feel as a censure on my conduct; I can assure his Lordship that I yield not to Mr. Buxton himself, for whose philanthropic feelings I entertain the greatest respect, in my desire to benefit these children.

I sincerely hope he may in future receive more accurate information respecting them and those who seek to do them good, and rely on his Lordship's kindness and known sense of justice to inform that influential gentleman, that in this instance his correspondents have mistaken the motives and misrepresented the conduct of

Yours, &c.
(signed) *R. Boucher Clarke.*

To his Excellency Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., Governor.
&c. &c. &c.

(No. 1.)

AN ACT to amend an Act, intituled, "An Act for the Abolition of Slavery, for the Government of Apprenticed Labourers, and for ascertaining and enforcing the reciprocal Duties between them and their Employers."

WHEREAS by the thirty-eighth clause of the Act for the Abolition of Slavery taken from the Imperial Act, it is lawful for the special justices of the peace to apprentice any free child of any apprenticed labourer who is not provided with adequate maintenance until such child shall have completed his twenty-first year: And whereas, in consequence of various misconstructions which have been made in this clause, it is expedient to repeal so much of the same as permits the apprenticeship of any such child for so long a period; and to declare that the special justices of the peace shall in no case have power to apprentice any such child beyond the year one thousand eight hundred and forty, in which the apprenticeship system will expire;

Be it therefore enacted, by the Governor, Council and Assembly, and by the authority of the same, that so much of the said thirty-eighth clause of the said Act for the Abolition of Slavery as declares "that the term of such apprenticeship of any such child so to be apprenticed by the said special justices of the peace, as by the said clause is specified, shall be limited, and made to continue in force until such child shall have completed his or her twenty-first year and no longer," shall be and the same is hereby repealed.

Clause 2.—And be it further enacted, that no special justice of the peace shall have power to bind out as an apprentice, under the authority of the said thirty-eighth clause, or of the said Act for the Abolition of Slavery, any such child who shall be unprovided with adequate maintenance for a longer period than the year one thousand eight hundred and forty, in which the said apprenticeship system will cease.

I do certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the Bill introduced in the House of Assembly by Mr. Solicitor-general Clarke, on the 21st of February 1837, and which was lost by a majority of one.

(signed) *John Mayers,*
Clerk of the General Assembly.

(No. 2.)

COPY of a REPORT on "An Act to repeal the 38th Clause of an Act, intituled, 'An Act for the Abolition of Slavery, for the Government of Apprenticed Labourers, and for ascertaining the reciprocal Duties between them and their Employers.'"

(For Report, *vide* page 1.)

—No. 81.—

(No. 40.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor
Sir *E. J. M. M'Gregor*, Bart.

Sir,

Downing-street, 30 June 1837.

No. 81.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches, Nos. 88 and 97, dated the 1st and 9th of May, enclosing the explanation of the Solicitor-general of Barbados on the imputation which had been conveyed against him, of promoting the views of "planters in the island of Barbados to force the apprenticeship of the free children without the consent of their parents."

I did not delay transmitting these despatches and enclosures to Mr. Fowell Buxton in a letter, of which the accompanying is a copy, and that gentleman has replied to it by communicating to me the letter, which he has addressed to Mr. Clarke on the subject, a copy of which I have likewise to furnish you with for your information.

It is highly gratifying to me to have received from Mr. Buxton a letter, in which that gentleman, in terms so honourable to his own character, has avowed

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and retracted the erroneous statement which he had made to the prejudice of Mr. Clarke, in reliance on information which now appears to have been entirely incorrect. I feel convinced that the apology will be accepted by Mr. Clarke in the same spirit of candour in which it has been made.

With regard to your part of this correspondence, it is painful to me to learn that you should have understood my despatch of the 29th March as conveying any implied censure or distrust, against which it behoved you to vindicate your character. Had any such defence been required, I gladly admit that it could not have been made in terms more conclusive than those of your despatch of the 9th of May. But I feel anxious to assure you, that there never rested on my mind so much as a surmise to the prejudice of your zeal for the welfare of the negro population of the Colonies under your government, and that if the language of my despatch of the 29th of March required or admitted such a construction, that language must have been most unfortunately chosen, and wholly inappropriate to the occasion on which it was employed.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Glenelg.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 81.

Encl. 1, in No. 81.
No. 88, 1 May.
No. 97, 9 May.

Sir,

Downing-street, 23 June 1837.

I AM directed by Lord Glenelg to transmit to you herewith two despatches, with their enclosures, from Sir Murray M'Gregor, the Governor-general of the Windward Islands, in which that officer conveys his own explanations, and those of the Solicitor-general of Barbados, of the course adopted by them in respect to the apprenticeship of children, freed under the Act for the Abolition of Slavery. These explanations are given in consequence of the information which you received from a correspondent in Barbados, and communicated to Lord Glenelg, to the effect that attempts were being made by the public authorities of that island, and especially by the Solicitor-general, to force the apprenticeship of the children. Lord Glenelg cannot doubt that the enclosed documents will satisfy you that the information which you received was totally without foundation, and that you have unconsciously been the means of giving currency to a statement not less erroneous than it is prejudicial to the character of the Solicitor-general of Barbados.

T. Fowell Buxton, Esq., M. P.
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Geo. Grey.*

Enclosure 2, in No. 81.

Encl. 2, in No. 81.

My Lord,

London, 26 June 1837.

I BEG to return you the despatches of the Governor of Barbados, with the enclosures. I enclose also the copy of a letter which I have addressed to the Solicitor-general.

The Lord Glenelg,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) *T. F. Buxton.*

Sir,

London, 26 June 1837.

I HAVE received your letter. In the first place, allow me to express my sense of the delicate and kind manner in which you conveyed your complaint of the statement I had made to Lord Glenelg, and to thank you for your charity in ascribing to unintentional error those observations of mine which, under your feeling of unmerited obloquy, might have been imputed to another cause, and might have been called by a harsher name.

I have no hesitation in saying at once that I was betrayed into a great error, and that I was the means of inflicting an injury upon you which you did not merit.

My only apology is, that I derived my information from an informant, whom I know to be incapable of wilful misrepresentation; that I copied verbatim his statement, and requested that an inquiry might be instituted.

Since the receipt of your letter, and the perusal of his Excellency the Governor's despatch, containing your convincing justification, I have communicated with my informant. He has called my attention to the fact, that he spoke of your intentions early in December, and that your public proceedings did not take place till the following January. This relieves him from the imputation of stating that which the smallest inquiry would have proved to be without foundation; but it makes no other difference. Your intentions in December must be judged by your acts in the following month. I therefore altogether withdraw my charge, and request your pardon for having made it. I take the liberty of adding, for the sake of my own character, that in a controversy which has now lasted 14 years, this is the first occasion on which I have found it necessary to retract any thing I have asserted; and that in this case, I stated no more, and no less, than I received from a very respectable, and, in other instances, a very accurate informant.

I have sent a copy of this letter to Lord Glenelg, and I trust it will prove satisfactory to his Excellency the Governor, as well as to yourself.

To the Solicitor-general, &c. &c. &c.
Barbados.

I have, &c.
(signed) *T. Fowell Buxton.*

—No. 82.—

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(No. 133.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *E. J. M. McGregor*, Bart., to
Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Government House, Barbados, 12 June 1837.

No. 82.

IN continuation of the subject on which I had the honour of addressing your Lordship, in my letters, Nos. 88 and 97 of the 1st and 9th ultimo, the accompanying papers are now submitted for your Lordship's further information.

Nos. 1 to 15, from
8 May to 8 June
1837.

In those numbered from 1 to 8, it will be found that my inquiries, whether they had "occasion to observe, 1st that the planters in this island are attempting to force the apprenticeship of the free children without the consent of their parents;" and "2dly, that every effort is made to force the parents to apprentice the children, by turning the infants out of their houses into the road, stopping the molasses, on which they are partly sustained, &c.," have been answered in the negative by all the stipendiary magistrates serving in this island under the appointment of his Majesty.

The enclosures from 9 to 14 exhibit the sentiments of those gentlemen collectively upon allusions immediately connected with the above questions that have recently appeared in the public prints, Nos. 11 and 12 of which attest the liability to error of persons, however well-disposed, engaged in cursorily gleanings passing information in these colonies.

In noticing those enclosures, I cannot omit the intimation of my entire dissent from the notion therein expressed, that "the sufferings of the negro would have been less, and his preparations for freedom at least as great, had Parliament simply decided that in 1840 slavery should cease, and not at all interfered with the master's authority till that period;" because, in accordance with the special justices, it appears to me that "the apprenticeship system" is infinitely to be preferred to a continued state of slavery, were it for no other reason, founded upon general principles of equity, than that of transferring from the hands of the master into those of the magistrate the power of punishment, so that no class of the King's subjects can any longer be excluded more than another from benefiting by the possible interposition of the Royal mercy.

On the state of the apprenticeship in Barbados, the special magistrates generally report, that "they also consider it necessary to adduce, as the most cogent proof of the satisfactory working of the apprenticeship system, that the agricultural state of the island at this moment, and previously to the reaping of the late crop, although it may have been equalled, has been seldom surpassed, while the large returns made on all the estates sufficiently evince the contented spirit with which the apprentices performed their daily routine of duty; and, with such strong evidence before them, the meeting would submit to your Excellency the impolicy (to use no stronger epithet) of disturbing the present feeling of harmony by introducing to the heated imaginations of the apprentices an over-wrought picture of oppression, as exercised towards them by their natural protectors, and thus sowing the seeds of discontentment and final insubordination!"

When these "unanimous opinions" of the whole body of special justices shall have been ascertained, and the proofs considered, which are supplied in the joint letter and its accompaniments to my address from their honours the President of the Council and Speaker of the Assembly, (Enclosures 15, (A.), (B.), (C.), (D.), of the occupation of the legislature, in inquiring "into the actual condition of the free children of apprenticed labourers, with a view of devising the best means of providing for their education and promoting their welfare," at the very period in which the planters were represented to him as attempting "to force the apprenticeship of those children without the consent of their parents;" it is scarcely to be doubted that the "embarrassing distrust" complained of by the honourable board and house will be replaced, in Mr. Buxton's mind, by perfectly different and less unfavourable feelings.

Any "hostility" due "to the principle of the apprenticeship of children" would seem to have been more correctly levelled at the framers of the original Bill, by whom, however, it must have been adopted with the most humane intentions, than against the authorities here, on whose part no disposition to profit by it can be traced, and by whom it has been recently repudiated.

Your Lordship has been pleased to do justice to the liberality of the Council

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and Assembly (adverted to in my former despatches), which indeed in more than one instance since my appointment to this government it has been my agreeable duty to bring under your Lordship's observation; and the present discussion will not have been in vain, if their declaration, "that they have cheerfully applied themselves in good faith to the consummation of this great natural experiment," shall be attended with the fortunate result of inclining Mr. Buxton, and those interested with that gentleman in the welfare of the apprenticed labourers, to communicate their suggestions to your Lordship in future, whenever the co-operation of the local legislature of Barbados may be desired, in a conciliatory form, as well as in a more confiding spirit.

I have, &c.

(signed) *E. J. Murray M'Gregor*, Governor.

Enclosure 1, in No. 82.

(Circular.)

Encl. 1, in No. 82.

Sir,

Private Secretary's Office, 8 May 1837.

I HAVE received the Governor's directions to inquire, for his Excellency's information, whether, in the district under your magisterial superintendence, you have had occasion to observe,

1st. That "the planters in this island are attempting to force the apprenticeship of the free children without the consent of the parents."

2d. That "every effort is made to force the parents to apprentice the children, by turning the infants out of their houses into the road, stopping the molasses, on which they are partly sustained," &c.

I have, &c.

(signed)

T. H. Ponsonby, Act. Priv. Sec.

The Special Magistrates of the respective Districts,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 2, in No. 82.

Encl. 2, in No. 82.

Sir,

Town District A., 9 May 1837.

IN reply to your circular letter, dated 8 May 1837, I have the honour to state, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that I have not heard of any instance in which the planters of this district, as also of that of district C. (formerly under my superintendence) 1st, "attempting to force the apprenticeship of the free children without the consent of their parents;" 2d, "or that any effort is made to force the parents to apprentice the children by turning the infants out of their houses into the road, stopping the molasses, &c.;" and I am quite satisfied, if such had been the case in either of the districts to which I allude, but particularly in district C. (where I was for 10 months), I should have been acquainted with it. No application has ever been made to me on the part of the planters or apprentices as to apprenticing the free children.

I have, &c.

T. H. Ponsonby, Esq. Act. Priv. Sec.

(signed)

F. D. Hutcheson, s. j. p.

Enclosure 3, in No. 82.

Encl. 3, in No. 82.

Sir,

Station House, District A. R. D., 10 May 1837.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your circular of the 8th instant, and written by command of his Excellency the Governor, requiring from me some information on the subject of "planters in this island attempting to force the apprenticeship of free children without the consent of the parents, and whether every effort is not made to force the parents to apprentice the children by turning the infants out of their houses into the road, stopping the molasses, upon which they are partly sustained," &c.

I have the satisfaction to inform you, that not a single effort of the above description (having for its object the apprenticeship of the free children of apprentices) has come to my knowledge in the district under my magisterial superintendence, since I took the chair early in December 1835, nor do I believe that any attempts of this nature have been made by the planters.

It is true, however, that in one instance a planter of my district, of little consideration, did, some months ago, turn off seven free children from his estate. This circumstance being made known to me in an hour after it happened, I instantly interfered, and threatened to manumit the parents if such brutality was persevered in; this had the desired effect, and the children were immediately permitted to return to the estate.

This act had nothing to do whatever with an intention of forcing the parents to consent to the apprenticeship of their children, but to inflict a punishment on the parents for some supposed offence, and of which I took proper notice.

I have, &c.

(signed)

John B. Colthurst, s. j. p.

T. H. Ponsonby, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

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Enclosure 4, in No. 82.

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Sir,

District B., May 10, 1837.

Encl. 4, in No. 82.

I HAVE the honour to state, for the Governor's information, that, to the best of my recollection, not one case of the description contained in his Excellency's circular of the 8th instant has occurred in this district.

I have, &c.

T. H. Ponsonby, Esq., Priv. Sec.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed)

Jos. Hamilton, S. J. P.

Enclosure 5, in No. 82.

Sir,

Station House, District C., 10 May 1837.

Encl. 5, in No. 82.

IN reply to your letter of the 8th instant, I have the honour to state, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that I have not had occasion to observe any instance in this district in which the planters attempt to force the apprenticeship of free children without the consent of their parents; or that any effort has been made to force the parents to apprentice children by turning their infants out of their houses into the road, and by stopping their molasses, on which they are partly sustained.

I have, &c.

T. H. Ponsonby, Esq., Private Secretary,
Government House.

(signed)

A. Cuppage, S. J. P.

Enclosure 6, in No. 82.

Sir,

District D., 16 May 1837.

Encl. 6, in No. 82.

IN answer to your circular of the 8th instant, respecting the free children, I beg to state, for the information of his Excellency the Governor,—

"1st. That I do not know of a single instance in my district of the planters attempting to force the apprenticeship of the free children without the consent of their parents;" and here I must observe, I have not in this district a free child apprenticed.

"2d. I cannot learn of any effort having been made by the planters to force the parents to apprentice the children 'by turning the infants out of their houses into the road, stopping the molasses, on which they are partly sustained,'" &c. Had such measures been attempted, I have no doubt I should have heard of it.

I have, &c.

T. H. Ponsonby, Esq.
Acting Private Secretary.

(signed)

Jno. Jas. Hough, S. J. P.

Enclosure 7, in No. 82.

Sir,

District E., 10 May 1837.

Encl. 7, in No. 82.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of his Excellency's circular of the 8th instant, proposing the two following questions, to which I am desired to reply, as far my observations have enabled me to judge, with regard to the district under my charge.

First. "Whether the planters in this island are attempting to force the apprenticeship of the free children without the consent of the parents?"

Among the numerous applications made to me by the apprentices, either to note their complaints, or to afford them advice, I have not received the slightest intimation from them that such a system prevailed. My observation on this point has led me to a different conclusion, and I rather imagine, that many proprietors who were at first willing to receive the free children under bonds of apprenticeship have now grown indifferent to the question, in consequence of the repugnance evinced by the parents towards this arrangement.

Secondly. "Whether every effort is made to force the parents to apprentice the children, by turning the infants out of their houses into the road, stopping the molasses, on which they are partly sustained," &c. &c.

No instance (to my knowledge) has occurred in this district, since my jurisdiction (and I find none previously recorded), of "the free infants of apprentices being turned out of the houses of the parents into the road;" and I make no doubt, if such an act had been committed, that the apprentice would have reported the circumstance to me forthwith.

I have, &c.

T. H. Ponsonby, Esq.
Acting Private Secretary.

(signed)

Joseph Garraway, S. J. P.

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Enclosure 8, in No. 82.

Encl. 8, in No. 82.

Sir,

District F., 10 May 1837.

WITH reference to his Excellency's circular of the 8th instant, I have the honour to state, in answer to question 1st, "It has not come to my knowledge in this district, that the planters are attempting to force the apprenticeship of free children without the consent of their parents."

2dly. "I do not think, in the instances of free children being put out of doors, or their molasses taken from them," &c., that these measures had been adopted, as an effort to force parents to apprentice their children, so far as I can ascertain.

I have, &c.

To T. H. Ponsonby, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *Geo. Kennedy*, S. J. P.

Enclosure 9, in No. 82.

Memorandum.

Encl. 9, in No. 82.

See Encl. 2 to 8.

13 & 20 May 1837.

24 March 1837,
No. 24.

THE Governor lays before the special magistrates collectively letters in which they have separately answered the inquiries addressed to them on the 8th instant, in relation to an alleged attempt on the part of the planters in this island to force the apprenticeship of the free children of apprenticed labourers.

The present meeting was suggested by the perusal of certain articles inserted in two numbers of the "Antigua Herald," now produced, together with a number of the "West Indian," a Barbados paper, subsequently published, all containing allusions to this subject.

The Right honourable the Colonial Secretary of State's despatch, in consequence of which the inquiries respecting it, already adverted to, were addressed to the special justices, is also presented, the Governor considering it important that they should have an opportunity of expressing their sentiments on the various documents in question.

Government House, 1 June 1837.

Enclosure 10, in No. 82.

Encl. 10, in No. 82.

TAKEN from "The Antigua Herald" of the 13th May 1837.

Mr. Joseph Sturge.

From "The Philanthropist," March 16th.

WE are glad to announce that letters were received on Saturday last, from Mr. Sturge and his friends, dated Jamaica, January 30, 1837, and that they were in health. It appears from their contents, that the letters and papers which were forwarded to them from this country on the 3d and 17th December had not been delivered, notwithstanding both packets had duly arrived. We have been favoured with the following extracts:

"Dominica.—We arrived in about two hours at our destination, a free village at the mouth of a considerable stream. We proceeded to the cottage of a respectable old negro woman, who keeps a shop here for the sale of bread and provisions. The old lady is upwards of 80, has never been married, but has always borne an irreproachable character. She appeared to be a person of very cheerful piety, and exercises the happiest influence over those in her neighbourhood by her example; she is a class leader among the Methodists, who have a chapel in the village, where service is performed usually every Sabbath by one of the missionaries or the local preacher. She is indeed a bright instance of usefulness and respectability in a very humble sphere; she has been free for about 10 years. The house was in nice order and very clean, and the garden neatly fenced."

"As a specimen of the dealings of planters towards their apprentices, we may mention, that one estate in this island, where the hurricane had destroyed the buildings and negro-houses, and the Government loan had been obtained for rebuilding them, the money was applied to the general improvement of the property; and, after considerable delay, the negroes were compelled to build their huts with their own labour in their own time, and, though the manager was fined by the stipendiary on this occasion, yet the people had no compensation."

"It was really a cause of sorrowful reflection to us to see an island like St. Lucia so entirely neglected, not only by the Home Government, but by the different missionary and other societies. One of the gentlemen, who so kindly devoted his time to us, observed that not a single ray from the religious and benevolent societies of England had yet reached it. There is only one Protestant minister in the island, viz. the rector. There are but two Catholic clergymen. The number of children receiving education does not probably much exceed 100. It is difficult to account for the indifference of the Home Government, as the subject has been repeatedly brought under its notice by the Council, who are themselves anxious that something should be done. On the part of the proprietary body generally, no obstacle need be feared; some of them would be glad to promote the efforts of missionaries and other teachers, and the others have not power to impede them."

"Barbados.

" Barbados. * * * speaking of the destitute white poor, mentioned the case of a lady whose property was entirely destroyed by the hurricane, and who was taken in and supported by one of her former slaves, who had purchased her time after 1834.

" * * * called upon us in the course of the morning. He conversed on the past history of slavery, a subject he has deeply studied. He spoke with great concern of the project on foot for the general apprenticeship of the children. He said it was impossible to obtain correct information respecting the actual state of things without a very long residence. The whole system was one of misrepresentation. He gave us the following illustration of the difficulty of obtaining correct information. Some years ago a body of slaves in the colony of Berbice, called the Winkel negroes, were emancipated by Government, to whom they belonged; happening, some time afterwards, to be in Berbice, he asked the local governor how these negroes were conducting themselves. The Governor said nothing could be more deplorable than their condition: "They are idle and dissolute, and the pest of society; the Government could not have done a greater injury to them than by emancipating them." A few days afterwards he dined with the Governor, and sat next to the protector of slaves, to whom he expressed his great concern at the conduct of these liberated negroes. The protector said, "I presume your information comes from our host, who is full of prejudice. I assure you the conduct of these negroes is most satisfactory, not one of them, that I am aware of, has ever been brought before a magistrate for misconduct." In order to ascertain which of the contradictory statements was true, he went early in the morning to the village where these people reside, in order to see for himself. He went into twenty of their houses in succession. There were in every house evidences of industry and domestic comfort; he found that in most of them there was some one who could read; and in every house there was a Bible or Testament, and nothing could be more satisfactory than the result of his investigation.

"We asked him whether, as the period of final emancipation approached, the planters would not be likely to adopt a conciliatory course towards their people. He said that he feared no improvement would be likely to take place, because it was not so much the loss of money which they regretted, as the loss of despotic power. No one now imagined that any loss would be sustained in the expense of cultivation." He considered it a providential question that Antigua had adopted complete emancipation; because, had the apprenticeship prevailed in all the colonies, at the end of the term such strong representations would have been made to the Home Government that they would probably have been induced to sanction laws restricting the labourers to the soil, which would have tended to perpetuate the system."

Enclosure 11, in No. 82.

EXTRACT from the "Antigua Herald" of the 20th May 1837, alluded to in the Archdeacon's Letter.

WE went this morning to the adult Sunday school connected with St. Mary's church; Encl. 11, in No. 82. there were present 40 or 50 old people, whom * * * * was addressing; they were catechumens, or candidates for baptism. There were also 50 or 60 scholars learning to read, in three or four classes; they were from 14 to upwards of 60 years of age; there were several very old people even in the alphabet class, some of whom, we were told, came eight or ten miles to the school; they exhibited a striking and affecting proof of the general desire among the negroes for education.

The archdeacon of * * * * is a bright instance of true Christian boldness and liberality; he has been resident 12 years; his family are now in England, and he feels his health so far affected by the climate, that he thinks he must shortly leave permanently, which, at the present time, will be a great loss, for his views on the abolition question are remarkably just and decided; he is strongly opposed to any apprenticeship of the children, for however short a period, or to any vagrancy law that shall in any manner shackle the freedom of the negro in the choice of a master. He appears to be universally beloved by the negroes and people of colour; he told me that the negroes spoke freely to him, and said that their present condition was worse than their former one; that they knew that the King and people of England intended it should be better, but the planters had prevented it.

To comprehend the severity of their punishments in time, it must be borne in mind, that in the only district of which we have obtained the returns, of 1,150 free children only 62 receive any food whatever from the estates, 51 any clothing, and 193 any medical care; of these, 49 belong to one humane proprietor, so that they and perhaps five or six children are dependent entirely for support upon the time of which they are robbed, for they appear to have commuted, in many cases, their slave allowances for half an acre of land.

In Barbados the combination amongst the planters is such, that it would require a degree of moral courage not to be expected, except in decidedly religious characters, for one of their number to adopt a liberal and enlightened course. The labour extracted from the negro in this colony, can be proved, is more than under the old system, and he would often prefer flogging severely to the robbery of his time, though perhaps the moral degradation may not be quite so great. The sufferings of the negro would have been less, and his preparations for freedom at least as great, had Parliament simply decreed that in 1840 slavery should cease, and not at all interfered with the master's authority till that period. Besides the mortality occasioned by the present system to the free children, the disgust to field labour

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labour which it keeps alive in the minds of the parent greatly increases their reluctance to having them put to any kind of agricultural work, and the masters generally are able to throw obstacles in the way of their getting any kind of efficient instruction till the end of the apprenticeship, so that there is ground to fear many of them will imbibe idle habits that will not easily be removed.

Though nearly two years and a half have now elapsed since the commencement of the apprenticeship, and Government and Parliament were as much pledged to the adoption and support of a liberal plan of education for the negroes as for the payment of the twenty millions, yet nothing worth naming has been done, or seems likely to be done.

* * * *, speaking of the state of the free children, said the planters had settled it in their own mind, after 1834, to have the children apprenticed, and when the parents unanimously refused, in a fit of disappointment many turned them out upon the public roads, and refused to allow the mothers any time to attend them, or any of their usual indulgences. They told them, "See what your friends in England have done for your children." This state of things lasted about a fortnight; some of the planters, particularly the owners of large estates, had the children in the estate nurseries, as before, under the care of an old woman. On the smaller properties they are not so well off; the free children were not allowed to be about the estate in the day-time, and it was a wonder what became of them, as their parents usually fastened their doors as they went into the field. Many came to the infant school three hours before it was open, simply because there was nowhere where they could pass the time; they had been obliged to hire a person to take care of them.

A stipendiary magistrate stated, that it was most ill-advised policy to pay the compensation beforehand; if it had been left till the end of the apprenticeship, things would have gone on very differently, and many lives would have been saved, as the utmost care would have been taken of the children and old people. Both he and another gentleman who was present agreed that there had been a large proportion of deaths among the free children, but there were no means of ascertaining the exact truth.—*Birmingham Philanthropist*, March 16th.

Enclosure 12, in No. 82.

"West Indian," of the 29th May 1837

To the Editor of the "Barbadian."

Encl. 12, in No. 82.

Sir,

HAVING just read in the "Antigua Herald" a statement made by Mr. J. Sturge of the condition of the negroes in this island, in which my name appears to be introduced, I am anxious, before I sail from Barbados, to obviate any misapprehension which may arise from the allusion made to my opinions of the existing state of the negro labourers.

I have a distinct recollection that I mentioned, in the presence of Mr. Sturge, that certain of the negroes considered the condition of their apprenticeship to differ but little from their former condition of slavery, and that they attached an undue importance to the cessation of certain allowances or indulgences which they received under the old system, without sufficiently regarding the benefits which, in a moral view, had resulted from the change in their state. I particularly noticed among these benefits the discontinuance of the demoralizing practice of flogging the females, and also the power given by law to the magistrates to interpose in any case of complaint made by the apprentice against his master.

With reference to what the King and the people of England intended, and what the planters prevented, I am perfectly certain that Mr. Sturge is under a mistake in supposing that I used the expressions which he attributes to me in this matter.

As my conversation with Mr. Sturge was in the presence of a third person, now in this island, I am happy to be able to say that that person fully admits the correctness of the remarks which I have here made of Mr. Sturge's communication to his friends in England.

With respect to my being in opinion opposed to the apprenticeship of the negro children, I hesitate not to declare that I am so. My sentiments on this subject have continued without any change from the first promulgation of the Imperial Act down to the present day.

I have noticed all which in Mr. Sturge's letter can have reference to any conversation which that gentleman had with me on the state of the apprenticeship in this colony.

I am, &c.

Barbados, 26 May 1837.

(signed) *Edward Eliot.*

Enclosure 13, in No. 82.

Encl. 13, in No. 82.

Sir,

Barbados, Station-house, District A.R.D., 6 June 1837.

As chairman of a meeting of the special justices of this island, convened by desire of his Excellency the Governor, and held on the 1st instant, I have the honour to forward to you, for his information, the report of that meeting and the conclusions arrived at.

The several matters contained in his Excellency's memorandum, and laid before this meeting, were separately taken into consideration, and investigated deliberately. Those subjects

subjects are of such importance in the present and peculiar situation of the population of the colony, that every possible care was taken by the committee in drawing up their report, which conveys to his Excellency the unanimous opinions of their whole body on the points submitted to them for consideration.

I have, &c.

T. H. Ponsonby, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) John B. Colthurst, s. j. p.

Enclosure 14, in No. 82.

Barbados, 1 June 1837.

Encl. 14, in No. 82.

At a meeting of special magistrates of this island, held this day, present, Major Colthurst, Captains Hough, Cuppage, Robertson, Hutcheson, Kennedy and Mr. Garraway, the enclosed memorandum, with its accompaniments, was laid before the meeting by desire of his Excellency the Governor.

The meeting, having attentively considered that portion of a report inserted in the "Antigua Herald" of the 20th of May, and extracted from "The Birmingham Philanthropist" of the 16th of March, under the head of "Barbados," in which several statements connected with the apprenticeship system in this colony are advanced, which, in the opinion of this meeting, should be met by a record of their sentiments, the more particularly as the confidence of the Home Government has reposed in their hands, with a view of bringing the important experiment of the apprenticeship at present in operation throughout the colonies to a successful termination, are induced respectfully to state to your Excellency, in reference to the following observations contained in the report above alluded to,

"1st. That the sufferings of the negro would have been less, and his preparations for freedom at least as great, had Parliament simply decreed, that in 1840 slavery should cease, and not at all have interfered with the master's authority until that period."

On this point they hold a different opinion; and although they do not doubt that a state of entire freedom would have been more beneficial to the negro than a perpetuation of slavery until 1840, still, under present circumstances, they consider the apprenticeship system highly advantageous, from which the best results may reasonably be expected, and infinitely to be preferred to a continued state of slavery.

"2dly. That a mortality has taken place among the free children of apprenticed labourers, occasioned by the present system of withholding the usual allowances from the free children, and also that the disgust which the apprenticeship system keeps alive in the minds of the parents greatly increases this reluctance to engage their children in any kind of agricultural work."

With reference to the mortality of free children, the special magistrates are unable to speak with certainty; they must, however, observe that they are unacquainted with any apparent cause which might have originated such mortality, and have no doubt, if such cause existed, that it would have come under their observation. Relative to the repugnance of the apprentices in engaging their children in agricultural labour, they conceive this disinclination to be the very natural result arising from feelings connected with their late state of slavery.

"3dly. That the masters are generally able to throw obstacles in the way of their free children receiving efficient instruction till the end of the apprenticeship, so that there is ground to fear many of them will imbibe idle habits."

The magistrates, being aware that this important subject has been already referred by his Excellency the Governor to the House of Legislature, they forbear offering any remark on this statement. The meeting feel themselves called upon to add, that assertions, of a nature similar to those above noted (which they have endeavoured to show, as far as their experience and observation entitle them to judge, are vague and unsatisfactory), must tend materially to keep alive those feelings of irritation generated under the late system of slavery, which it would be politic to soothe and allay; and, by connecting the old system which prevailed with the present preparatory state of apprenticeship, they consider that a serious obstacle is raised in the minds of the parents towards entering into that conciliatory contract, which their friendly advocates at home, as well as in the colonies, are equally anxious to establish, viz., the participation of the employers in partially defraying the expenses attending the education of the free children on the one hand; and on the other, the imperative necessity on the part of the parents to inculcate in the minds of their juvenile offspring the propriety of engaging in some species of agricultural labour, as a means of future subsistence.

They cheerfully bear testimony to the general good behaviour of the apprentices, which they have reason to hope will still continue to prevail; but they fear that reports similar to that under observation, promulgated, no doubt, with pure intentions, and firmly credited by the authors, who have implicitly relied on the communications made to them on the subject, are not by any means calculated to maintain this peaceable and tranquil behaviour on the part of the apprentices, inasmuch as a feeling of imaginary wrong is created; whereas, on the contrary, they are firmly protected from oppression by the impartial administration of the wholesome laws confided to the care of the special magistrates.

They also consider it necessary to adduce, as the most cogent proof of the satisfactory working of the apprenticeship system, that the agricultural state of the island at this

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moment, and previously to the reaping of the late crop, although it may have been equalled, has been seldom surpassed; while the large returns made on all the estates sufficiently evince the contented spirit with which the apprentices performed their daily routine of duty; and with such strong evidence before them, the meeting would submit to your Excellency the impolicy (to use no stronger epithet) of disturbing the present feeling of harmony by introducing to the heated imaginations of the apprentices an overwrought picture of oppression, as exercised towards them by their natural protectors, and thus sowing the seeds of discontentment and final insubordination.

(signed) *John B. Colthurst, S. J. P.*

Enclosure 15, in No. 82.

Barbados.

To his Excellency Sir *Evan John Murray M'Gregor*, Baronet, Governor, &c. &c.

Encl. 15, in No. 82.

May it please your Excellency,

THE Council and Assembly have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's message of the 9th instant, together with its enclosures, Nos. 1, 2 and 3. No. 1, being copy of a despatch from his Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonial Department; No. 2. Copy of a letter from Mr. Buxton to the Under Secretary of State, Sir George Grey; and No. 3. Copy of part of a letter said to have been addressed to Mr. Buxton from a correspondent in Barbados; and we beg to assure you, Sir, that we are impressed with a deep sense of gratitude for the frank, open and generous conduct of your Excellency, in having been graciously pleased to communicate to these two branches of the legislature documents containing matter of such great importance to the best interests of the island under your government.

Lord Glenelg has, at the suggestion and under the influence of Mr. Buxton, assumed the truth of the following proposition on authority, the value of which will be presently apparent, "that an attempt is making by planters in the island of Barbados to force the apprenticeship of the free children without the consent of their parents; and that the Solicitor-general is endeavouring to prove that a clause in one of the local Acts will enable them to affect this object." His Lordship has unfortunately in this instance drawn his conclusions from premises wholly unfounded in fact, and consequently given instructions altogether needless.

It were well if our Trans-Atlantic brethren would in such cases wait for proof before they proceeded to condemn; accustomed, however, to be calumniated as a body, we have long ceased to regard with feelings other than those of astonishment the credulity which fosters falsehood, and the avidity with which malicious representations are credited, when they coincide with the views or promote the objects of party.

We, therefore, return your Excellency sincere thanks for having afforded us an opportunity of refuting the slanderous imputations attempted to be cast on the character of an honourable and most efficient member of the legislature, and also of removing from the minds of his Majesty's Ministers an impression highly injurious to the character of this community. This will be best done by a simple statement of facts. In Appendix (A.), to which we most respectfully refer your Excellency, you will find that on the 31st of January last, the Solicitor-general made a motion in his place in the House of Assembly, "for the appointment of a committee to inquire into the actual condition of the free children, with a view of devising the best means of providing for their education and promoting their welfare, and that the Council be invited to appoint a committee of their body to confer with the committee of the House on the occasion;" which motion the learned member supported by the arguments contained in Appendix (B.), the Council and Assembly being impressed with the conviction, that on the industrious habits and moral conduct of the labouring population mainly depend the success of the great experiment which is now being made on the colonies; and being moreover desirous of laying the surest foundation for the reorganization of our social system, a joint committee of the Council and Assembly was appointed, which, as your Excellency is aware, is now engaged in instituting a minute inquiry, to carry into effect the objects set forth in the Solicitor-general's motion. As a preliminary measure to the success of this, the Solicitor-general himself, on the 21st of February, introduced a Bill in the House of Assembly to repeal that part of the 38th clause of the Abolition Act, authorizing the apprenticeship of the free children of apprenticed labourers until the age of twenty-one years, which was lost by a majority of one—*vide* Appendix (C.) On the 14th of March, another member of Assembly, not being an official servant of the Crown, and having no scruples as to an assumed principle of the Government, introduced a Bill to repeal the whole of the 38th clause of the Abolition Act. To this the Solicitor-general objected, unless accompanied with a suspending clause, which being added on his motion, the Bill was carried by a large majority, and immediately went through the Council, both branches of the legislature being convinced that this clause of the Abolition Act had been quite inoperative.

So much, then, for the truth of the allegations of Mr. Buxton's correspondent, as regards the Solicitor-general, whose conduct has been the very reverse of that with which he is charged, for so far "from attempting to prove that a clause in one of the local Acts, which

which the Colonial Office has sanctioned, will enable them to effect this," the Solicitor-general has been mainly instrumental in effecting the repeal of the clause alluded to.

With respect to the allegation made by Mr. Buxton's correspondent, that "the planters in this island are attempting to force the apprenticeship of the free children without the consent of their parents," and by that gentleman imposed as truth upon his Majesty's Government, we again refer your Excellency to the Minutes of Assembly, Appendix (D.) for the total refutation of that charge, the popular branch of the legislature having, with the full approbation of their constituents, "the planters," voluntarily repealed the 38th clause of the Abolition Act, the only law under which free children could have been apprenticed, and thus the principle of hostility to the apprenticeship of children adverted to by my Lord Glenelg, and attributed to the opinion of Sir Lionel Smith, but in fact originating with the Anti-Slavery Society, has been carried out during your Excellency's administration to the fullest extent which his Lordship could desire.

We cannot omit to take this opportunity of drawing your Excellency's attention to an erroneous impression which has been engendered in the minds of the parents of the free children by a misinterpretation of that very principle, when advocated by Sir Lionel Smith, which has been most detrimental to the best interests of the children themselves, as it is viewed by this class of persons as involving degradation in agricultural labour, and connecting idleness with freedom.

In the letter from Mr. Buxton's correspondent it is stated, "every effort is made to force the parents to apprentice the children, by turning the infants out of their houses into the roads, stopping the molasses, on which they are partly sustained." Charges so general demand but a general denial, which the Council and Assembly have no hesitation in giving, not a single instance of such inhuman conduct having come to their knowledge.

The question of emancipation being no longer a debatable point, we have cheerfully applied ourselves in good faith to the consummation of this great national experiment, in the ultimate success of which we are so deeply interested, and in pursuing this stern path of duty, surrounded by difficulties of no ordinary nature, we cannot but confess that we feel great mortification and disappointment in having to encounter embarrassing distrust and misapprehension, when we expected to find ready assistance and able support.

(signed) *John A. Beckles, President.*
Samuel Hinds, Speaker.

8 June 1837.

Appendix (A.)

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the General Assembly of the 31st of January 1837.

MR. CLARKE having expressed himself at some length on the subject, moved the appointment of a committee to inquire into the actual condition of the free children of apprenticed labourers, with a view of devising the best means of providing for their education and promoting their welfare, and that a communication be addressed to the Council requesting their concurrence in this inquiry; the motion being seconded by Mr. Bovell, and agreed to, Mr. Speaker was pleased to appoint Mr. Thornhill, Mr. Haynes, Mr. Muse, Mr. Clarke and Mr. Bovell, a committee for that purpose.

Appendix (B.)

EXTRACT from the Report of a Speech made by Mr. Solicitor-general *Clarke*, in the House of Assembly, on the 31st January 1837.

BEFORE he sat down he wished to say a few words on an important point connected with this question. He had heard that an idea had got abroad among the parents of these children, that it was in contemplation to enforce generally that clause of the Imperial Act for the Abolition of Slavery which had been incorporated in the Island Act, for causing the apprenticeship of these children under certain circumstances. He had been told of this impression in a way which had induced him to believe that it was equally general and baneful; he had no hesitation in giving it the most unqualified denial, and as it was most desirable that all erroneous impressions of this nature in the minds of the parents of these children should be removed, he took that opportunity of contradicting it. Such an idea had not, he believed, been ever entertained by any person possessing the least influence, or having any authority whatever; he was most solicitous that this impression should be done away with, because he feared that the result of the inquiry which he was about to recommend would show, that nearly all the evils to which these unfortunate children were exposed arose from wrong and unfounded impressions, chiefly on this subject, in the minds of their parents. He trusted that they would be persuaded that the only object the legislature had in view was to benefit these children, to rescue them from the curse of idleness, and by obtaining for them the blessings of education, enable them to provide for themselves at a future day by honest and profitable industry. The honourable member, after a few other remarks, concluded by moving the appointment of a committee to inquire into the actual condition of the

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free children of apprenticed labourers, with a view of devising the best means of providing for their education, and promoting their welfare, and that the Council be invited to appoint a committee of their body to concur with the committee of the House on the occasion.

Appendix (C.)

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the General Assembly of the 21st of February 1837.

MR. CLARKE, after expressing himself on the subject, introduced a Bill to repeal so much of the 38th clause of the Slavery Abolition Act as authorizes the special justices to apprentice the free children of apprenticed labourers until the age of 21 years, and to provide, that it shall not be lawful to apprentice such children beyond the 1st of August 1840, which he moved might be read; and his motion having been seconded by Mr. Bascom, the same was read a first, second and third time, and the question being about to be put thereon, Mr. Corbin rose and expressed himself against the measure, Mr. Clarke having spoken in reply to the objections urged by Mr. Corbin, the question was put on the Bill, when the same was lost, the House dividing as follows: Ayes 7; Noes 8.

Appendix (D.)

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the General Assembly of the 14th of March 1837.

MR. BOVELL, adverting to the Bill introduced at a former meeting by his learned colleague, Mr. Clarke, for repealing a part of the 38th clause of the Slavery Abolition Act, and which he regretted had been lost, begged to claim the attention of the House to the Bill he then held in his hand for repealing the whole of the said clause, which he delivered in, and moved that it might be read; and his motion having been seconded by Mr. Corbin, the Bill was read accordingly.

Mr. Clarke spoke as to the merits of the rejected as well as the present Bill; and said that he should not oppose the measure if a suspending clause for his Majesty's pleasure was added to the Bill, whereupon a suspending clause was unanimously agreed to, and added to the Bill accordingly.

The Bill was then, on the motion of Mr. Bovell, seconded by Mr. Corbin, read a second and third time; and the question for passing put thereon, when the same passed the Houses; Mr. Bascom dissenting.

—No. 83.—

(No. 53.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor
Sir *E. J. M. M'Gregor*, Bart.

No. 83.

Sir,

Downing-street, 31 August 1837.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your despatch and enclosures of the 12th June, No. 133, in further reference to the charge imputed to Mr. Clarke and the planters of Barbados, of forcing the apprenticeship of the free children without the consent of their parents.

You will before this be in possession of my despatch of the 30th of June, in which I communicated to you the frank retraction by Mr. Buxton of the erroneous statement which he had made to the prejudice of Mr. Clarke. I may therefore consider that part of the subject as disposed of; and it now only remains for me to assure you of the gratification with which I have perused the statements of the several stipendiary magistrates serving in Barbados, that the planters have not, in any one instance that has been brought to their cognizance, attempted to force the apprenticeship of the free children without the consent of their parents.

I perceive it to be stated by the Council and Assembly, in the communication made to you on the 8th June, through the President and Speaker, that I had, "at the suggestion and under the influence of Mr. Buxton, assumed the truth" of the statements made to me through that gentleman. The Council and Assembly are in error in supposing that I assumed the truth of the statements in question; I merely dealt with them as I am bound to deal with any statements which are not anonymous, and which contain allegations affecting public interests. I transmitted them to you for inquiry and report, affirming at the same time the principles of policy which Her Majesty's Government had adopted in regard to the subject they were connected with.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

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—No. 84.—

(No. 183.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *E. J. M. M'Gregor*, Bart.,
to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 84.

My Lord, Government House, Barbados, 16 August 1837.

I HAD the pleasure of acquainting Mr. Solicitor-general Clarke, immediately on its receipt, with the contents of your Lordship's despatch of the 30th of June, No. 40, and have since been verbally assured of his concurrence with me in entirely adopting your Lordship's view of the candid and handsome manner in which Mr. Fowell Buxton has hastened to withdraw the charges against the learned gentleman, which erroneous information had induced him to advance.

At the same time, in consequence of the allusion to myself in the conclusion of his explanatory letter to Mr. Clarke, I am desirous, with your Lordship's permission, that Mr. Buxton should be distinctly apprized of its having proved, as he had every right to expect, perfectly satisfactory to me.

Your Lordship will likewise permit me to express the proper sense with which I am impressed of the kind and considerate terms in which your Lordship has been pleased to disclaim any implied censure or distrust of my sentiments or proceedings in regard to the negro population of these colonies.

I have, &c.

(signed) *E. J. M. M'Gregor*, Governor.

BARBADOS.

SPECIAL MAGISTRATES' REPORTS.

—No. 85.—

(No. 143.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *E. J. M. McGregor*, Bart.
to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 85.

My Lord,

Government House, Barbados, 20 June 1837.

May 1837.

COMMUNICATIONS from the stipendiary magistrates of Barbados, relative to the questions they are required to answer monthly, are herewith forwarded to your Lordship.

I have, &c.

(signed) *E. J. M. McGregor*, Governor.

Enclosure 1, in No. 85.

BARBADOS.—DISTRICT C.

Encl. 1, in No. 85.

MONTHLY REPORT from the 1st to the 31st of May 1837.

QUESTIONS.

No. 1.—WHAT has been the general conduct of the apprentices in your district since your last report?

No. 2.—Is there any want of good feeling between them and their employers; and if so, to what cause do you attribute it?

No. 3.—Do they perform their work willingly; and if not, to what do you ascribe it?

No. 4.—What are the working hours generally in use in your district? Are any, and what, intervals of relaxation allowed to the apprentices during the working hours?

No. 5.—Is task-work generally resorted to in your district? If not, does the objection lie with the master or the apprentices?

No. 6.—Is it usual for the apprentices to work in their own time for money-wages? If so, what is the ordinary rate of wages, and how are they paid? If not, have they been offered?

No. 7.—Are any indulgences withheld which it was usual during slavery for the estate to supply?

No. 8.—What is the condition of the free children, and how are they supported?

No. 9.—What facilities does your district supply for education and religious instruction? Is the attendance at church

ANSWERS.

Although a good many complaints have been preferred this month from this district, still, generally speaking, the conduct of the apprentices has been good.

In some instances a want of good feeling does exist between employers and apprentices, which I attribute principally to the substitution of time in lieu of part of the apprentices' allowance, and which is permitted by the 32d clause of the Abolition Act; together with private agreements entered into by apprentices with their masters to give extra time, and these agreements not held to by one or other of the party.

Generally speaking, the apprentices do perform their work willingly.

The working hours in this district are from six in the morning until nine, from ten until one, and from three until six, allowing intervals of relaxation from nine until ten, and from one until three.

Task-work is not generally resorted to in this district, which appears to be the mutual wish of master and apprentice.

It is usual for apprentice labourers in this district to work in their own time, and for money-wages, which average from 10*d.* to 1*s.* 1*d.* for nine hours' labour, and paid in money.

I am not prepared to say there are any indulgences withheld which it was usual during slavery for the estate to supply.

The free children in this district are principally supported by their parents, but on some estates they are fed and taken care of the same as previous to the 1st August 1834.

There are two churches in this district, with resident clergymen attached to each, and three chapels, having a school attached to each,

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QUESTIONS.

church and in the schools equal to the accommodation?

No. 10.—Is there a general desire amongst the apprentices to purchase their discharge? How many discharges have been effected since your last report?

No. 11.—To what kinds of employment do those who have obtained their discharge usually betake themselves?

No. 12.—What are the prospects of the ensuing crop; and what the general state of cultivation? Has the season been favourable, or otherwise?

No. 13.—Have you any suggestions to make, or practical measure to recommend?

ANSWERS.

each, and both well attended; but the facilities for education in this district are not near adequate for the rising population.

There is a great desire on the part of the apprentice labourers to purchase their discharge; seventeen were obtained this month; viz. three by free gift, one by private agreement, and thirteen by appraisalment.

Apprentices who obtain their discharge generally betake themselves to the same employments they followed previous to their obtaining the same.

The prospects of the ensuing crop hold forth to the planter the expectation of its being most abundant; the season as yet has been favourable, and the cultivation has been good.

I have not at present any suggestions to make, or practical measure to recommend.

(signed) *A. Cuppage, S. J. P.*

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Enclosure 2, in No. 85.

Station-house, Barbados, District A. R. D.

2 June 1837.

Sir,

I BEG leave to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that nothing of any importance has occurred in my district since I had the honour of forwarding my last monthly report for April. Encl. 2, in No. 85.

I have, however, great pleasure in stating, that the apprentices continue their good conduct by continuing to labour freely, particularly during extra hours required for the manufacture of the crop of canes. I consider this rather as a test in inclination to discharge their general duties; their conduct upon this occasion has undergone improvement, when compared with that of last year on the like occasions.

I beg leave to call the Governor's attention to a few remarks which I have considered it my duty to make upon the very important subject of education for the free children of apprenticed labourers.

I also enclose you the return of persons obtaining their discharge during the month of May.

I have, &c.

To T. H. Ponsonby, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *John B. Colthurst, S. J. P.*

Question 13.—Under this head of general inquiry, and having had an opportunity of reading a report of a Committee of the House of Commons appointed to inquire into the working of the apprenticeship system in the West Indies:

This report only refers to the operation of that system in Jamaica; however, the present situation of this colony is so similar in that respect, and the position of the special justices so much alike, that whatever the Committee have recommended for the one may, in my judgment, be adopted for the other; both are the principal seats of government; both have been chief nurseries of slavery, and markets for slaves; and, consequently, the two colonies, wherein the passions, prejudices and evils attendant upon that system have taken the deepest root, to calm and eradicate which becomes the most critical, and often painful, duty of the special justice, who is almost daily called upon to allay feelings so hostile to the temperate adjustment of questions on interests so much at variance.

However, now I have the pleasure of having it in my power to inform his Excellency that a manifest change for the better, in this respect, has gradually taken place in my district within the last four months; asperities seem to be giving way to temperate arrangement; the laws are better understood and obeyed; the number of runaways from estates to Bridge Town, where so many temptations exist, much fewer; this fact is satisfactorily proved by the morning reports to me from the police magistrates. The average number of those persons sent up to me with this report each morning, for the six months previous to the 1st January 1837, was 10, or thereabouts. The average number since that period to the present is not more than three each day, and on some mornings as low as one. This gradual decrease in the number of absentees from estates to Bridge Town, where (as I said before) so many temptations present themselves, I consider a most favourable circumstance.

In the report of the Committee which I have alluded to, several matters have been taken into consideration, and, among others, the necessity of educating, in a suitable manner, the free children of apprentice labourers, as well as suggesting the expediency of alterations in the laws now in force.

BARBADOS.

Reflection, and some experience, in the discharge of my duties have led me to be of opinion generally, that the fewer alterations of the present laws (affecting the apprenticeship system) that take place the better. Those laws, however defective, have been so long acted on, and the parties concerned so reconciled to their operation, it would, in my very humble judgment, be exceedingly injudicious to alter or amend them now, at this late period of the apprenticeship, and, by so doing, rouse passions and jealousies at present, happily, at rest, which is again excited, the evil would fall (as in almost all such cases) on the weaker party, the apprentice, for whose protection and interests the great Abolition Law was mainly carried into effect. I therefore think the present tranquil and prosperous state of things should remain undisturbed; and whatever difficulties the special justices may experience in the discharge of their duties, it would be most advisable to permit this great experiment to settle down without any material change in the laws now in existence, or further interference, the more particularly as the momentous question of education will, ere long, be brought before the public. This, of itself, and upon whatever system formed, will create considerable agitation for some time; it is of such vast importance to the future and best interests of this colony, all minor considerations should give way, and permit the present good understanding between the parties to be assisting in whatever system of education may be finally decided on, and which, if properly handled, will ensure the future prosperity of the colony in the affirmative; it will also require to be carried into effect by judicious persons, without (if possible) disturbing the favourable current of the apprenticeship, and which, under any circumstances, should not be lost sight of for a single moment.

I am led respectfully to make the above remarks in consequence of the variety of opinions expressed by individuals on the precise mode or system of education to be adopted; some of those opinions are wild and extravagant in the greatest degree, and utterly irreconcilable with the present situation of the people; others again are more rational, and many take a sincere interest in the project, and would lend their hearty aid in the education of their dependents. The first of those parties insist upon compulsive measures throughout; the second say, "Let the parents be compelled (in case of refusal) to send their children to school;" the third party say, "Let us have no more compulsion, but conduct all our movements both by the letter and the spirit of the Abolition Law;" with those last opinions I feel bound to agree, and, therefore, think that any description of compulsion adopted upon this occasion would produce great evil, and, perhaps, endanger the apprenticeship itself. When it is considered how extravagantly the apprentice population regard their new-born liberty, as well as their profound ignorance of what may be intended purely for the benefit of themselves and children, any compulsive system of education introduced thus early, and however modified, would, in my judgment, be productive of consequences exceedingly difficult of remedy; if such proposition was to become law, no art could persuade the apprentices but that their masters and employers were concerned in it, and hence feelings of ill-will and hostility would arise.

I have lately conversed with many respectable planters on this interesting subject, who differ, as I said before, upon the plan or system to be adopted, but all agree upon the expediency and necessity of the undertaking, and freely admit the propriety and justice of assisting themselves on the occasion to a limited amount. During those discussions I proposed a plan for the free children of apprentice labourers, to be called the "Estate Education System," which would include others not immediately belonging to the estates, but in the neighbourhood, and thus education would become more or less general, and the proprietors relieved from the disgrace and danger of suffering at least 20,000 young fry to grow up in idleness and ignorance of their most common duties; it is also plain that Government will assist, upon this occasion; and to explain my meaning more clearly, I will describe my own district as nearly as I can, and endeavour to show this estate system of education may be carried into effect upon fair and economical principles.

There are 64 estates in my district over 25 acres; I proposed that each estate of this number should pay 5*l.* British per annum, for the education of their negro children and others; that the sum paid should be regulated by the numbers fit for instruction, and actually receiving it; thus the very large estates would have to pay considerably more than 5*l.* and the small estates considerably less, and as it would be quite impossible for the children to walk any considerable distance either to or from school, I proposed that the 64 estates should be divided into eight school districts; thus the children of eight estates may assemble without much inconvenience daily, and return home without much fatigue. This subscription or tax would, from eight estates, produce 40*l.* British per annum, which being increased by the Government to 40*l.* more would make 80*l.* British, or about 112*l.* Barbados currency, and which would be amply sufficient to support a school.

There are six rural districts in the island, and rating them all at this average, which is not far from the truth, the expenses would stand fully nearly as follows:

Eight estates, at 5 <i>l.</i> per annum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£. 40
Paid by Government	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40
								£. 80

Therefore, 64 estates, at this rate, would require,—

Island charge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£. 320
Paid by Government	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	320
								£. 640

There

There are about 2,000 free children of apprentices in my district, of various ages under eight years; the far greater number too young and unfit for any description of useful instruction; and, therefore, not more perhaps than one-sixth of this whole number would have to be provided for. The calculation would stand thus:—

Free children of apprentices	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	280
From neighbouring small estates	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35
								315

When the distances were short, some of the younger ones might attend, and so increase the number to 400; then taking the six rural districts to average about the same, 2,400 children would be placed under instruction. The island charge for 384 estates upon this system would be 1,920*l.* at 5*l.* for each estate, to which the Government would have to add 1,920*l.* more per annum.

At first sight, these sums when added together appear heavy; but when it is considered the most important results are likely to arise from this expenditure, no man can reasonably object to it. The other islands in this government are less densely peopled, and therefore the expenses would be greatly diminished.

It is plain, that upon the early training of those interesting children, the prosperity of the West India colonies will hereafter have mainly to depend; and, therefore, a narrow policy now would be productive of little good. Millions may possibly be saved at some future time by moderate advances now, and taking advantage of the position the parties are relatively placed, would give the conductors of any system of education during the continuance of the apprenticeship opportunities of access which, after its termination in the year 1840, will never occur again.

It may be doubted by some whether the subscription or tax would be willingly paid by the owners of estates; I am fully satisfied it would, if the demand is properly made and explained to the public generally. In my intercourse with the planters, I have not met a single man of any consideration who did not at once admit the necessity of some well-digested system of education; and further, that such plan or system should be chargeable on estates to a certain extent; it is therefore clear that it can be done, and the more speedily the better.

By this arrangement, there would be 48 schools established in the island in the rural districts, attended by about 50 or 60 children each. I have said nothing of the seventh, the town division of District A., because here the children of all descriptions have access to many schools established in Bridge Town and its neighbourhood while the rural districts of the island are almost entirely unprovided; a small school, it is true, is here and there established, but the numbers are so few they are entirely inadequate to the wants of the people.

I have felt it my duty to inform myself upon the various subjects connected with the discharge of my official duties, and, therefore, the conclusions I have come to will be found to be generally correct. It is said in other colonies as well as in Barbados, that there has been a great want of natural affection among the negro parents for their children, and that great mortality has taken place among the free children of apprentices in another colony, from this cause; this has been most satisfactorily contradicted by the reports of the special justices to the Lieutenant-governor. I have spared no pains to ascertain whether any unnatural neglect of the negro parents to their children had occurred in my district; not a single instance of such conduct has come to my knowledge, I am happy to say; far, too far, the contrary is the truth, over-indulgence and petting their children seem to be the only matters the negro parents can be fairly accused of; they exhibit their fondness in many ways, and first of all, in their untaught estimation, they do not require them to work. This is easily accounted for—the recently emancipated slave will always hold for a considerable time liberty and idleness as the first of blessings.

It is asserted that the negro parents are disinclined to send their children to school; this certainly does exist to a certain extent; however, as some proof that this disinclination is by no means general, a vast many of the apprentices of my district send their children to school and pay a bit a week for them, a quarter-dollar entrance, and the same at each vacation; those schools are well attended, but very few in number. Many of the apprentices hire their apprenticed children from their masters at a quarter-dollar a week, for the express purpose of sending them to school.

On the establishment of any general system of education for the free children of apprentices, there is no doubt but labour, if practicable, should form a part; this, however, in the first instance, had better not perhaps be insisted on; but it should be always kept steadily in view and carried into effect when a favourable moment arrived. I do not believe there is a single respectable estate in the island where a breakfast of roots or corn would not be given to the older children, provided they gave three hours' light work, from six to nine o'clock in the morning, prior to their going to school. The planters generally know how to estimate such training, and therefore I anticipate no hesitation on their parts to come forward upon its adoption.

(signed)

John B. Colthurst, S. J. P.

BARBADOS.

Enclosure 3, in No. 85.

Encl. 3, in No. 85.

Sir,

District B., Barbados, 31 May 1837.

IN obedience to the instructions contained in Lord Glenelg's circular letter of the 15th July 1836, I have the honour to submit to his Excellency the Governor the subjoined answers to the questions therein propounded, and in the order in which they are numbered.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

- No. 1.—It was only on the 15th instant that I commenced to do duty in this district; but in that short time the general conduct of the apprentices has been good.
- No. 2.—There is a good feeling generally, as far as I have seen, existing between the apprentices and their employers. There are, however, exceptions, but chiefly where the proprietors or the accredited attorneys are absent; the estates (for example, Lord Harewood's) for which Mr. Foster Clarke is attorney having, during Mr. Clarke's absence, been under several acting attorneys, who have made changes with regard to the indulgence given to women who are nursing children.
- Mr. Foster Clarke had given instructions, which were acted upon until within the last few weeks, that the nursing women should not be in the field at work before eight o'clock in the morning: they are now ordered out at seven. This change, although perfectly legal (and still an indulgence, because they might be ordered out at six o'clock in the morning), the women look upon as a hardship; hence many complaints arise from this feeling; but had the greater indulgence never been granted, the women would be now contented with that which they have.
- No. 3.—They do perform their work willingly.
- No. 4.—The working hours generally in use are from six in the morning until six in the evening; with an interval of one hour (from nine to ten) for breakfast, and of two hours for dinner, viz., from one to three o'clock.
- No. 5.—Task-work is scarcely ever resorted to in this district; the objection, I understand, being on the part of the employers, who say that they found task-work when given was executed in a very slovenly manner.
- No. 6.—The apprenticed labourers in this district work with good-will for money-wages in their own time. There are estates, however, which cannot get their share of this extra labour. But this may be accounted for by some of the bad practices of former times being still kept up on the said estates, especially in the harsh and degrading language of slavery which is still held by some managers, and, by their example, used even by the superintendents (these being of their own class) towards the apprenticed labourers. Quarter-dollar a day.
- No. 7.—I am not competent to answer this question. Salt, molasses and rum are now issued upon some estates as an indulgence, and withdrawn on any relaxation of good conduct.
- No. 8.—The free children are in general in good condition, and supported almost exclusively by their parents.
- No. 9.—There is a great want of schools, and apparently of encouragement to acquire the elements of moral and religious instruction, in this rural district. As an instance: a free coloured man, the manager of an estate belonging to an honourable member of his Majesty's Council, in preferring a charge at this office against an apprenticed labourer, the said manager, not knowing how to write his name, made his mark to the complaint.
- No. 10.—The apprentices have a very general desire to purchase their discharge. The non-prædial class, whose time is now drawing to a close, and easily purchased, have come forward in considerable numbers; the prædial classes, for want of means to purchase the longer period, have not been able, practically, to exhibit the same anxiety; but there is no doubt that it exists in an equal degree; and as the time draws near, I have no hesitation in stating my belief that the ability to purchase even one week of freedom will not be lost to anticipate their release from the apprenticeship. Seventeen is the number discharged in the course of last month.
- No. 11.—To various employments. They are generally tradesmen or domestics, who now purchase their discharge; and they usually betake themselves to their former employments.
- No. 12.—The ensuing crop promises to be one of the most abundant that has appeared in this island for a long series of years. The general state of the cultivation is much improved, according to my recollection and judgment, since 1833-4, the year preceding the emancipation. The season has been most favourable.
- No. 13.—The only suggestions I should presume to offer would be—First. That the allotment of a small portion of land in lieu of provisions being very generally granted in this district to the apprenticed labourer, I should therefore, with great deference, submit that, in order to avoid a scarcity of provisions prevailing by any unexpected casualty in the course of the seasons, the cultivation of sugar should be prohibited by law on those provision allotments. Secondly.

That

That the commutation of money or time in lieu of clothing should not exonerate the master from the moral responsibility of seeing that his apprenticed labourer does not outrage the decencies of society by the filthiness or the scantiness of his covering. I have been disgusted by exhibitions of this kind at the station-house, and in every case it was the effect of the commutation law, which at this rate must retard the march of civilization during the apprenticeship.

T. H. Ponsonby, Esq., Priv. Sec.
Government House.

I have, &c.
(signed) A. Robertson, S. J. P.

Enclosure 4, in No. 85.

Sir,

Town District A., 31 May 1837.

Encl. 4, in No. 85
15 July 1836.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the following replies to the thirteen questions contained in the circular despatch from the Colonial Office.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

- No. 1.—THE general conduct of the apprentices has been good.
 No. 2.—No want of good feeling.
 No. 3.—They do work willingly.
 No. 4.—The working hours are generally from 6 A. M. to 6 P. M.; out of this is deducted three hours for meals. They have no other relaxation but what the law allows them, so far as prædial apprentices are concerned. The non-prædials (domestics) labour is continuous; and they have no relaxation but what is usual for meals and rest.
 No. 5.—No, I cannot say where the objection lies; and am not aware that task-work has ever been tried.
 No. 6.—It is; the ordinary rate of wages is quarter of a dollar, or 1*s.* - $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* sterling per day; and they are paid in the current money of the colony.
 No. 7.—I believe where the apprentices behave well, they have the same indulgences as hitherto; if otherwise, they are withheld.
 No. 8.—The condition of the free children is, I believe, pretty good; and as far as I can understand, they are principally supported by their parents, while young.
 No. 9.—There are three churches, and their schools; the attendance appears equal to the accommodation, wherever I have had an opportunity of seeing it.
 No. 10.—There is a general desire to purchase discharges; 70 voluntary and eight by appraisement, and 19 by private agreement, have been effected this month.
 No. 11.—To their usual trades or occupations; some of the females become travelling hucksters or pedlars.
 No. 12.—It is rather too early to judge of the appearances of the ensuing crop; but the rain is now setting in, which is considered favourable to it.
 No. 13.—I have no suggestions to make, or practical measure to recommend.

T. H. Ponsonby, Esq., Act. Priv. Sec.
Government House.

I have, &c.
(signed) F. D. Hutcheson, S. J. P.

Enclosure 5, in No. 85.

DISTRICT D.

Encl. 5, in No. 85

REPORT of the Special Magistrate of the above District for the month of May 1837.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

- No. 1.—WHAT has been the general conduct of the apprentices in your district since your last report? See report for month of August last.
 No. 2.—Is there any want of good feeling between them and their employers; and if so, to what cause do you attribute it? - - ditto.
 No. 3.—Do they perform their work willingly; and if not, to what do you ascribe it? - - ditto.
 No. 4.—What are the working hours generally in use in your district? Are any, and what, hours of relaxation allowed to the apprentices during the working hours? - - ditto.
 No. 5.—Is task-work generally resorted to in your district? If not, does the objection lie with the apprentices or masters? - - ditto.

BARBADOS.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

- No. 6.—Is it usual for the apprentices to work in their own time for money-wages? If so, what is the ordinary rate of wages, and how are they paid? If not, have they been offered? See report for month of August last.
- No. 7.—Are there any indulgences withheld which it was usual during slavery for the estate to supply? - - ditto.
- No. 8.—What is the condition of the free children, and how are they supported? - - ditto.
- No. 9.—What facilities does your district supply for education and religious instruction? Is the attendance at church and in the schools equal to the accommodation? - - ditto.
- No. 10.—Is there a general desire among the apprentices to purchase their discharge? How many discharges have been effected since your last report? - - ditto.
Eleven: five by appraisement, and six by the voluntary acts of owners.
- No. 11.—To what kinds of employment do those who have obtained their discharge usually betake themselves? See report for month of August last.
- No. 12.—What are the prospects of the ensuing crop, and what the general state of cultivation? Has the season been favourable, or otherwise? - - ditto.
- No. 13.—Have you any suggestions to make, or any practical measure to recommend? None at present.

(signed)

John J. Hough, s. j. p.

Enclosure 6, in No. 85.

Encl. 6, in No. 85.

Sir,

District E., 1 June 1837.

IN conformity with the monthly duty enjoined on the special magistrates, of reporting on the condition of their several districts, I have the honour to state, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that the favourable account of the general good conduct of the apprenticed labourers, which I was gratified to transmit in the month of April, has been fully confirmed by their continued good behaviour during the last month of May. A reference to Table (A.) will exhibit a total number of 109 punishments inflicted, and on comparison with my previous Tables (A.) the present penal number will be found to be sensibly diminished from that recorded in the preceding months; and I submit this fact as the best support of the position I have advanced, that the apprenticed population of this district are steadily and peaceably performing their stated round of agricultural duty. It is here proper to allude to a late accident which happened on an estate in this district, the consequences of which might have been seriously alarming, had not the exertions of the apprentices on the property fortunately succeeded in arresting the evil. The shaft of the mill on Orange Hill estate having been discovered in a state of ignition, the bell was rung, and the manager bears testimony to the alacrity with which the people immediately repaired to the spot, and cheerfully obeyed such precautionary orders as he deemed requisite to issue for the preservation of the mill. The credit of timely exertion on this occasion is alone due to the apprentices, who laboured to arrest, and finally succeeded in extinguishing the fire. The crops throughout the district are all reaped, and the returns, as I have already had occasion to note, such as the most sanguine planters could expect.

I would respectfully bring under his Excellency's notice the subject of appeals preferred by apprentices *versus* their classification of registry. During the last month six applications of this nature were submitted for my decision, four of which (setting aside the registered classification of P. A. and substituting that of non-prædial) will be found recorded in my duplicate monthly journal; the remaining two have been postponed for decision early this month. As the period of emancipation for non-prædials, in 1838, is fast approaching, I am inclined to think that the appeal cases will form a large proportion of the magistrates' duties, and will sensibly increase as the intervening period becomes more contracted; hence some confusion will necessarily arise if these appeals are delayed until the last few months; and it becomes a question of much importance as to the best method in which these numerous claims may be brought forward for timely adjustment, without imparting to the apprentices an erroneous opinion that all are to resort to the special magistrates for an investigation of their claims, many of which would be groundless, and productive of the consumption of much time, without any corresponding benefit. I am aware that his Excellency's consideration has been already attracted to this subject; but I have deemed it necessary to allude to it in this report, it being the first practical proof of this nature that I have experienced since assuming the magisterial charge of this district.

The number of appraisements during the month of May amounts to 15, and that of voluntary discharges to 4, in all 19; as will be found more clearly specified in the return of appraisements, &c. &c. already transmitted; and I have only to add, that the desire of procuring their discharge still continues prevalent among all classes of the apprentices.

I have, &c.

Taylor H. Ponsonby, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) Joseph Garraway, s. j. p.

Enclosure 7, in No. 85.

BARBADOS.

Sir,

District F., 1 June 1837.

I HAVE the honour to forward my journal for May 1837, also my Table (A.) for that month.

Encl. 7, in No. 85.

My answers to the questions for the Right honourable the Secretary of the Colonies are the same as those already forwarded for the month of April.

I have, &c.

T. H. Ponsonby, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) Geo. Kennedy, s. J. P.

—No. 86.—

(No. 159.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart., to
Lord Glenelg.

My Lord,

Government House, Barbados, 10 July 1837.

No. 86.

COMMUNICATIONS from the stipendiary magistrates of Barbados, relative to the questions they are required to answer monthly, are herewith forwarded to your Lordship.

For the month of
June.

I have, &c.

(signed) E. J. Murray M'Gregor, Governor.

Enclosure 1, in No. 86.

Sir,

Town District A., 1 July 1837.

Encl. 1, in No. 86.

I HAVE the honour to state, with reference to the circular list of questions from the Right honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, that there has been nothing worthy of notice different to the report of the month of May; but I cannot but observe the diminution of offences in this district for the month of June, which I can only attribute to the improved state of feeling on the parts of employers as well as their apprentices. There have been 59 discharges effected this month.

15 July 1836.

I have, &c.

(signed) F. D. Hutcheson, s. J. P.

Enclosure 2, in No. 86.

Sir,

Station-house, District A., Rural Division, 1 July 1837.

Encl. 2, in No. 86.

I BEG leave to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that no change of any importance has taken place in my district since I had the honour of forwarding to your office my last monthly report for May.

I have, however, great pleasure in expressing my satisfaction at the general good conduct of the apprentices, who are now in the act of finishing the manufacture of the last year's splendid crop of canes, producing, perhaps, the greatest quantity of sugar ever before known. I am also happy to inform his Excellency that the new planted crops of canes, corn and roots look extremely well, in consequence of the late rains; the estates are in a high state of agricultural order, and all things look well for the coming year.

The apprenticeship proceeds steadily, and I trust it will continue to do so; complaints are by no means so numerous for the last three or four months as they were before, and the absentees from estates very much fewer; therefore I have, I trust, a well-grounded hope, as the period of service becomes less, so will complaints in the same ratio; both parties begin to feel they will be ultimately dependent upon each other, therefore consider it prudent to be upon such terms, prior to the 1st of August 1840, as will insure to the master steady labour for his estate, and to the apprentice the means of support when all will be alike free; this feeling, I rejoice to say, is quite apparent, and proves that the employer and the employed begin to understand their true position of mutual interests.

Under the 13th head of general monthly inquiry, I took the liberty in my last for May, to call his Excellency's attention to the necessity of devising some well-digested system of training and education for the free children of apprentices; having entered at some length on this subject in that report, I will not now revert to it further in this, but merely to state respectfully that, in my judgment, its early consideration is the most important of any other connected with the best interests of the colony.

BARBADOS.

I think it my duty also to mention another matter of very little less importance in its consequences to the interests of the island, namely, vaccination for the labouring classes and others; upon the strictest inquiry I find that perhaps not above one in thirty of the population generally have been secured by inoculation; therefore the great mass of the people, and particularly of the labouring classes, are at this moment exposed to the introduction of small-pox, with all its most lamentable consequences.

I have, &c.

(signed)

John B. Colthurst, S.J. P.

T. H. Ponsonby, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 3, in No. 86.

DISTRICT B.—Barbados, 30 June 1837.

MONTHLY REPORT upon the Questions contained in Lord Glenelg's Circular,
dated Downing-street, 15 July 1836.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

Encl. 3, in No. 86.

No. 1.—THE general conduct of the apprentices in this district has been very good since my last report.

No. 2.—The same good feeling generally exists between the apprentices and their employers, with the same exceptions that I had the honour to observe in my last report; and I would now add, that the system of changing the managers of estates frequently has the effect of producing some misunderstanding on every change between these gentlemen and the labourers. It seems to be a favourite idea amongst planters and attorneys, who have several estates, that on any comparative failure of a crop, the interchange amongst their managers alone can insure them against a recurrence of such failure. But the new manager being a stranger to the people, in urging the work with increased zeal, often treats the industrious and the idle indiscriminately, taunting them, without sufficient knowledge of their respective characters, with their former habits, which is the cause of much discontent. As an illustration, on an estate (Walker's) in this district, which I visited on Monday last, on account of some slight misunderstanding of this nature with a new manager, an old man belonging to the estate said that this was the sixteenth manager he remembered there.

No. 3.—They do generally perform their work well and willingly; although, from the changes of managers as above alluded to, some complaints are made of idleness against individuals, when they fall short of a certain scale of labour, which was calculated by a committee of practical planters of this island, and which scale professes to be what effective apprenticed labourers are to perform in a given time. But the gangs are almost always badly classed, men of different ages and of different strength, and women of the same description, comprising even what is called the first gang on an estate. The strongest man of a gang, and the best workman, is generally chosen as a leader, or as he is called, a first-row-man; and when the time comes to leave off for breakfast or for dinner, or at the close of the daily labour of nine hours, the whole gang, weak and strong, are obliged to put their respective rows on a line with that of the first-row-man before they quit their work. This frequently robs the weaker ones, particularly the women, of the time which the law allows for refreshment or repose; for if they do not keep up their work with the leader, or else finish it afterwards in their own time, they are brought before the special justice and complained of. Yet it is illegal to give them task-work, unless the majority of the gang consent. But this system of compelling the weak to keep up with the strong is surely not the spirit of the law. It is task-work in disguise, and of the hardest kind.

No. 4.—The working hours in general use are as stated in my last report, viz. from six in the morning till six in the evening, with one hour for breakfast and two hours for dinner; but the intervals allowed by law for refreshment or for rest in the course of the day are often curtailed from the causes I have stated in No. 3.

No. 5.—I stated in my last report, that task-work was scarcely ever resorted to in this district. I should now add that task-work is virtually in force, from what I have observed in No. 3; but it is more severe on the weaker individuals, who, in being tasked in a gang, would be assisted in their share of the work by the more powerful labourers of the gang.

No. 6.—The same willingness to work for wages in their own time, as reported in my last, and the same objections to work for particular estates, still continue. The best classes of prædial labourers demand, however, generally a higher rate of wages than they did, viz. 4 bitts, or 2s. 6d. currency per diem. This high demand is alleged on their part to be necessary to meet the high appraisements when they wish to purchase their time; and it is, on the other hand, an excuse
for

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

for their owners to value them at a higher rate, because they must replace their labour at an enhanced price. But moderate appraisements might have the effect of throwing more labour into the market, and, consequently, of moderating its price.

No. 7.—In my last report I stated that I was not competent to answer this question. I have now to observe that women, when in a state of pregnancy or while nursing, are less indulged than, I understand, they were when they and their offspring were in a state of slavery, the nine hours per day in the field being very frequently insisted upon from them in their condition, the law having made no exception in their favour; and nothing but going into the sick-house, to be fed, perhaps, upon water-gruel, which a woman in either case may not fancy, and, perhaps, to be locked up in the said hospital or sick-house, agreeably to the 34th clause of the island “Act for the Abolition of Slavery;” nothing but this alternative, under some managers, can exempt them from giving their nine hours in the field.

No. 8.—The free children, as reported in my last, are almost exclusively supported by their parents, and are generally well-conditioned. But it is a hard task upon the mother to give attention to her children and to work for nine hours in the field during the day. On some estates an old woman is appointed to watch the children as it was in the time of slavery. But this is by no means general, and scarcely ever, excepting upon the larger estates.

No. 9.—The want of schools is great and urgent, and has been already brought under the notice of the island legislature.

No. 10.—The apprentices continue to evince a desire, generally, to purchase their discharge. I have been applied to by great numbers in the course of the month for advice as to the probable amount of their appraisement; and on finding that they had not yet sufficient funds, they seemed much affected at the disappointment. Twenty-seven discharges have been effected in their district since my last report.

No. 11.—The discharged apprentices usually betake themselves to their former employments, whether tradesmen, prædials or domestics.

No. 12.—The ensuing crop continues to promise to be an abundant one. The cultivation is excellent, and the season has been most favourable.

No. 13.—I have no suggestions to make but what may be gathered from the remarks, which I have presumed to offer in answering the foregoing questions.

I have, &c.

His Excellency Sir E. J. M. McGregor,
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) A. Robertson, s. j. p.

Enclosure 4, in No. 86.

BARBADOS.—DISTRICT C.

MONTHLY REPORT, from the 1st to the 30th June 1837.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

No. 1.—WHAT has been the general conduct of the apprentices in your district since your last report?

The general conduct of the apprentice labourers in this district during the last month has been good. Encl. 4, in No. 86.

No. 2.—Is there any want of good feeling between them and their employers; and if so, to what cause do you attribute it?

No want of good feeling, generally speaking, exists between masters and apprentices in this district.

No. 3.—Do the apprentices perform their work willingly; and if not, to what do you attribute it?

With few exceptions, the apprentices in this district perform their work most willingly.

No. 4.—What are the working hours generally in your district? Are any, and what, intervals of relaxation allowed to the apprentices during the working hours?

On most estates the working hours in this district are from six in the morning until nine, from ten to one, and from three until six, allowing intervals of relaxation from nine until ten, and from one until three.

No. 5.—Is task-work generally resorted to in your district? If not, does the objection lie with the master or apprentice?

Task-work is not generally resorted to in this district, which appears to be the mutual wish of master and apprentice.

No. 6.—Is it usual for the apprentices in their own time to work for money

It is usual for the apprentice labourers in this district to work in their own time, and

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

money-wages? If so, what is the ordinary rate of wages, and how have they been paid? If not, have they been offered?

and for money-wages, which average from 10½d. to 1s. 1d. for nine hours' labour, and paid in money.

No. 7.—Is there any indulgence withheld which it was usual for the estate to supply during slavery?

I am not prepared to say that there is any indulgence withheld from the apprentice labourer which it was usual during slavery for the estate to supply.

No. 8.—What is the condition of the free children, and how are they supported?

The free children in this district are generally supported by their parents, but on some estates they are fed and taken care of the same as previous to the 1st August 1834.

No. 9.—What facilities does your district supply for education and religious instruction? Is the attendance at church and at the schools equal to the accommodation?

There are two churches in this district, with resident clergymen, and three chapels, each having a school attached, and both well attended; but the facilities afforded for education not near adequate for the population requiring instruction.

No. 10.—Is there a general desire among the apprentices to purchase their discharge? How many discharges have you effected since your last report?

There is a great desire on the part of the apprentice labourers to purchase their discharge; 23 discharges have been effected since my last report, viz., 15 by appraisement and eight with free gift.

No. 11.—To what kinds of employment do those who have obtained their discharge usually betake themselves?

Of the apprentices who obtain their discharge, tradesmen and mechanics continue their usual occupation, and the others employ themselves in trafficking and keeping little shops.

No. 12.—What are the prospects of the ensuing crop, and what the general state of cultivation? Has the season been favourable, or otherwise?

The prospect of the ensuing crop holds forth to the planter the expectation of its being most abundant; the season as yet has been most favourable, and the cultivation good.

No. 13.—Have you any suggestions to make, or practical measure to recommend?

I have the honour to suggest, that if the hours of labour in which the apprentices are to work were laid down by law, so that the proprietor and manager of every estate would

turn out their apprentices to work at the same hour, and give the same hours of relaxation, it would be attended with beneficial results, so far as doing away with much discontent that prevails at present amongst some of the apprentice labourers on several of the estates in this district. The proprietors and managers of estates generally work their apprentice labourers three hours without intermission, allowing them one hour (from nine to ten) for breakfast, and two (from one to three) for dinner, which in my opinion is fair, and gives general satisfaction. Upon others, and some of the largest estates, one hour at noon is only allowed, which is of no service to the apprentices, further than giving them a short respite from labour; when half an hour is occupied by them in going and returning from their work to their houses, it leaves them little or no time to cook and eat their dinner, which I presume to be the intention of allowing them to leave off work for this time at noon; besides, the apprentices state that five o'clock is the hour on these estates at which they should discontinue work, and they are frequently kept to near six, which causes much discontent amongst them, and renders it difficult for a special magistrate to decide whether their causes of complaint are just or otherwise, amongst so much conflicting and opposite evidence as appears invariably in cases of this kind.

(signed) A. Cuppage, S. J. P.

Enclosure 5, in No. 86.

DISTRICT D.

REPORT of the Special Magistrate of the above District, for the month of June 1837.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

No. 1.—WHAT has been the general conduct of the apprentices in your district since your last report?

See report for August last.

No. 2.—Is there any want of good feeling between them and their employers; and if so, to what cause do you attribute it

- - ditto.

Encl. 5, in No. 86.

No. 3.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

- No. 3.—Do they perform their work willingly; and if not, to what do you ascribe it? See report for August last.
- No. 4.—What are the working hours generally in use in your district? Are any, and what, intervals of relaxation allowed to the apprentices during the working hours? - - ditto.
- No. 5.—Is task-work generally resorted to in your district? If not, does the objection lie with the masters or apprentices? - - ditto.
- No. 6.—Is it usual for the apprentices to work in their own time for money-wages? If so, what is the ordinary rate of wages, and how are they paid? If not, have they been offered? - - ditto.
- No. 7.—Are there any indulgences withheld which it was usual during slavery for the estate to supply? - - ditto.
- No. 8.—What is the condition of the free children, and how are they supported?
- No. 9.—What facilities does your district supply for education and religious instruction? Is the attendance at church and in the schools equal to the accommodation? - - ditto.
- No. 10.—Is there a general desire among the apprentices to purchase their discharge? How many discharges have been effected since your last report? - - ditto.
Sixteen, viz. seven by the voluntary acts of owners, eight by purchase, and one by agreement.
- No. 11.—To what kinds of employment do those who have obtained their discharge usually betake themselves? See report for August last.
- No. 12.—What are the prospects of the ensuing crop, and what the general state of cultivation? Has the season been favourable, or otherwise? - - ditto.
- No. 13.—Have you any suggestions to make, or any practical measure to recommend? - - ditto.

(signed) *John James Hough, s. J. P.*

Enclosure 6, in No. 86.

Sir,

District E., 1 July 1837. Encl. 6, in No. 86

WITH reference to the monthly questions to be answered by the special magistrates reporting on the state of their districts, I have the honour to state, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that the general good conduct of the apprentices under my jurisdiction (as previously noted in my last report) is most gratifying and satisfactory.

I am inclined to think that a feeling of mutual accommodation is now manifesting itself between the employers and their dependents, which, if well ripened by the exertions of the magistrate, will materially tend to diminish the list of trifling complaints lately brought under his notice for adjustment.

I beg to add, that 19 appraisements and 13 voluntary discharges have taken place in this district for the month of June, as will more particularly appear on reference to the enclosed document.

I have, &c.

T. H. Ponsonby, Esq.
Act. Priv. Sec., &c. &c. &c.

(signed) *Joseph Garraway, s. J. P.*

Enclosure 7, in No. 86.

Sir,

District F., 3 July 1837. Encl. 7, in No. 86.

I BEG to forward my journal for the month of June; also Table (A.) and a report of penal labour, and fines inflicted.

My answers to the thirteen questions for the Secretary of the Colonies are the same as last submitted.

I have, &c.

T. H. Ponsonby, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *George Kennedy, s. J. P.*

BARBADOS.

—No. 87.—

(No. 55.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor
Sir *E. J. M. M'Gregor*, Bart.

No. 88.

Sir,

Downing-street, 14 September 1837.

I HAVE received your despatch, No. 159, Barbados, of the 10th of July, enclosing the reports of the special magistrates for the month of June, which I have read with great satisfaction. I learn from them that the conduct of the apprentices has been every where good; that complaints against them are less frequent; that a better understanding is growing up between them and their employers; that in every district wages for extra labour have been offered and accepted; that those who have received or purchased their discharge from apprenticeship either continue to follow their former occupation or betake themselves to some other mode of profitable industry; that an abundant crop has been got in apparently without loss or difficulty; and that cultivation is in a forward state.

I find, however, by Mr. Robertson's report, that a practice obtains in his district which the special magistrate ought undoubtedly to resist. He complains that the gangs are badly classed, comprising men and women of different ages and different degrees of strength; and that, nevertheless, each member of the gang is required to do the same quantity of work. At the close of the regular hours of labour the "first-row-men" are drawn off; but the rest are kept at work till "they have put their respective rows on a line with that of the first-row-men." In other words, the weaker portion of the gang are made to labour for more than 45 hours during the week, which is contrary to the law.

Against this illegal exaction, it appears to me that the apprentices, if duly protected by the special magistrate, have a complete remedy in their own hands. The close of each period of labour is made known to them by the drawing off of the first-row-men; those who are behind may insist upon being drawn off at the same time. If they should afterwards be charged before the special magistrate with not having done a sufficient quantity of work it is for him to judge whether the work done is sufficient or not. In determining this, he will remember that a "sufficient" quantity of work is that quantity which the labourer can be reasonably expected to accomplish within the prescribed time; and that it can never be reasonable to expect that a weak man should do as much work as a strong one.

Mr. Robertson seems also to think that sufficient allowance is not always made for the weakness of women during pregnancy, or for their maternal duties during the infancy of their children. In many cases they are expected to perform their full nine hours of daily labour, as usual; and their only way of escaping that hardship is to exchange it for the confinement of the sick-house.

You will remind Mr. Robertson that, in this as in the former case, the law places the ultimate decision in the hands of the special magistrate. Sickness is a lawful cause for neglecting the employer's work; and the weakness which accompanies the later stages of pregnancy, and makes the performance of the full amount of labour impracticable, injurious or painful, is clearly to be classed under this head. If a complaint for not working the full number of hours be preferred against a woman who can justly plead in excuse either bodily weakness or the demands of maternal duty, the special magistrate ought not to hesitate in admitting such excuse as a valid defence.

You will be so good as to impress the substance of these observations not only on Mr. Robertson, but on all the special magistrates, and indeed on all parties.

I am, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

—No. 88.—

(No. 199.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *E. J. M. M'Gregor*, Bart., to
Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Government House, Barbados, 1 Sept. 1837.

No. 88.

COMMUNICATIONS from the stipendiary magistrates of Barbados, relative to the questions they are required to answer monthly, are herewith forwarded to your Lordship. For the month of July.

I have, &c.

(signed) *E. J. Murray M'Gregor*, Governor.

Enclosure 1, in No. 88.

Station-house, District A., Rural Division,
4 August 1837.

Encl. 1, in No. 88.

Sir,

I BEG to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that nothing of any importance has occurred in my district since I had the honour to forward my monthly report for June last.

I have, however, great pleasure to report the general good conduct of the apprentices in my district during the last month; and, in conclusion, have only again to recommend that measures may be speedily taken to educate, in a suitable manner, the free children of apprentice labourers, whose situation at present is most critical, both as regards themselves and the future prosperity of this fine colony.

I have, &c.

To T. H. Ponsonby, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.(signed) *John B. Colthurst*, S. J. P.

Enclosure 2, in No. 88.

Sir,

Town District A., 5 August 1837.

Encl. 2, in No. 88.

IN transmitting my journal and Table (A.) for the last month, I beg leave to observe, that no alteration has taken place in this district to require any answers to the thirteen questions contained in the circular despatch of the Right honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, different to the last I transmitted to his Excellency the Governor; but I cannot but remark, from the few complaints I have had for the month of July, and from other causes, the improved state of good feeling on the part of employers as well as apprentices.

There have been no cases of altering the registry of any of the apprentices of this district, therefore I have sent no return in of such.

ve, &c.

T. H. Ponsonby, Esq.
Acting Private Secretary, &c. &c. &c.(signed) *F. D. Hutcheson*, S. J. P.

Discharges by agreement	-	-	-	-	22
„ appraisement	-	-	-	-	7
Voluntary discharges	-	-	-	-	41
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	70

Enclosure 3, in No. 88.

BARBADOS.—DISTRICT C.

MONTHLY REPORT from the 1st to the 31st July 1837.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

No. 1.—WHAT has been the general conduct of the apprentices in your district since your last report?

The general conduct of the apprentice labourers in this district since my last report has been good. Encl. 3, in No. 88.

No. 2.—Is there any want of good feeling between them and their employers; and if so, to what cause do you attribute it?

Generally speaking, no want of good feeling exists between master and apprentice in this district.

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No. 3.

BARBADOS.

QUESTIONS.

- No. 3.—Do they perform their work willingly ; and, if not, to what do you ascribe it ?
- No. 4.—What are the working hours generally in use in your district ? Are any, and what, intervals of relaxation allowed to the apprentices during the working hours ?
- No. 5.—Is task-work generally resorted to in your district ? If not, does the objection lie with the masters or the apprentices ?
- No. 6.—Is it usual for the apprentices to work in their own time for money-wages ? If so, what is the average rate of wages, and how are they paid ? If not, have they been offered ?
- No. 7.—Are any indulgences withheld which it was usual during slavery for the estate to supply ?
- No. 8.—What is the condition of the free children, and how are they supplied ?
- No. 9.—What facilities does your district supply for education and religious instruction ? Is the attendance at church and in the schools equal to the accommodation ?
- No. 10.—Is there a general desire among the apprentices to purchase their discharge ? How many discharges have been effected since your last report ?
- No. 11.—To what kinds of employment do those who have obtained their discharge usually betake themselves ?
- No. 12.—What are the prospects of the ensuing crop, and what the general state of cultivation ? Has the season been favourable, or otherwise ?
- No. 13.—Have you any suggestions to make, or practical measure to recommend ?

ANSWERS.

With few exceptions, the apprentices, generally speaking, perform their work most willingly.

On most estates the working hours in this district are from six to nine in the morning, from ten to one, and from three to six, allowing intervals of relaxation from nine until ten, and from one until three.

Task-work is not generally resorted to in this district, which appears to be the mutual wish of masters and apprentices.

It is usual for the apprentices in this district to work in their own time, and for money-wages, which average 1*s.* 1*d.*, and paid in money ; nine hours' work they give in each day.

I am not prepared to say there are any indulgences withheld from the apprentice labourer which it was usual during slavery for the estate to supply.

The free children in this district are principally supported by their parents ; but on some estates they are fed and taken care of the same as previous to the 1st of August 1834.

There are two churches in this district, with resident clergymen, and three chapels ; all have schools attached, but the facilities afforded for education are not near equal for the population requiring instruction ; the attendance at church and in the schools is equal to the accommodation.

There is a great desire on the part of the apprentice labourers to purchase their discharge ; twenty-four obtained their discharge this month, viz. seventeen by appraisement, three by private agreement, and four by free gift.

Of the apprentices who obtain their discharge, some follow the same employment they did previous to obtaining it, and others go about trafficking.

The prospects of the ensuing crop hold forth to the planter the expectation of its being most abundant ; the season as yet has been most favourable, and the cultivation good.

I have not any suggestions at present to make, or practical measure to recommend.

(signed) *A. Cuppage, S. J. P.*

Enclosure 4, in No. 88.

DISTRICT D.—31 July 1837.

REPORT of the Special Magistrate of the above District, in reply to the following Questions.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

Encl. 4, in No. 88.

- No. 1.—WHAT has been the general conduct of the apprentices in your district since your last report ?
- No. 2.—Is there any want of good feeling between them and their employers ; and if so, to what cause do you attribute it ?
- No. 3.—Do they perform their work willingly ; and if not, to what do you ascribe it ?

See report for August last.

- - ditto.

- - ditto.

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QUESTIONS.	ANSWERS.	BARBADOS.
No. 4.—What are the working hours generally in use in your district? Are any, and what, hours of relaxation allowed to the apprentices during the working hours?	See report for August last.	—
No. 5.—Is task-work generally resorted to in your district? If not, does the objection lie with the masters or apprentices?	- - ditto.	
No. 6.—Is it usual for the apprentices to work in their own time for money-wages? If so, what is the ordinary rate of wages, and how are they paid? If not, have they been offered?	- - ditto.	
No. 7.—Are there any indulgences withheld which it was usual during slavery for the estate to supply?	- - ditto.	
No. 8.—What is the condition of the free children, and how are they supported?	- - ditto.	
No. 9.—What facilities does your district supply for education and religious instruction? Is the attendance at church and in the schools equal to the accommodation?	- - ditto.	
No. 10.—Is there a general desire amongst the apprentices to purchase their discharge? How many discharges have been effected since your last report?	- - ditto. Fourteen; six by purchase and eight by the voluntary acts of the owners.	
No. 11.—To what kinds of employment do those who have obtained their discharge usually betake themselves?	See report for August last.	
No. 12.—What are the prospects of the ensuing crop, and what the general state of cultivation? Has the season been favourable, or otherwise?	- - ditto.	
No. 13.—Have you any suggestions to make, or any practical measure to recommend?	- - ditto.	

(signed) *John James Hough, S. J. P.*

Enclosure 5, in No 88.

Sir,

District E., 1 August 1837.

Encl. 5, in No. 88.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that the general good conduct and orderly behaviour of the apprenticed labourers in this district, as noted in my last, still continues, and I trust will meet with that encouragement from their employers which it certainly merits.

Agreeably to his Excellency's instructions respecting the adoption of cautious but effectual measures for explaining to the apprentices under my jurisdiction their right of appeal from the registrar's decision, I beg to state that I have taken such steps in this matter as will, I hope, fully elicit the claims of those apprentices who may consider themselves aggrieved by their present classification of registry: a monthly numerical return of the appeal cases preferred before me for decision, on evidence, dehors the registry, is herewith transmitted, by which his Excellency will observe, that the apprentices have not been backward in availing themselves of the opportunity thus afforded them of bringing their claims under the notice of the special magistrate for early adjustment.

I have little of importance to add, save with reference to the appraisements, 14 of which (together with three voluntary discharges) have taken place during the month of July, as specified in the enclosed return.

I have, &c.

Taylor H. Ponsonby, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *Joseph Garraway, S. J. P.*

Enclosure 6, in No. 88.

Sir,

District F., 1 August 1837.

Encl. 6, in No. 88.

I HAVE the honour to forward my journal with the various monthly returns for July.

My answers to the thirteen questions for the Right honourable the Secretary of the Colonies are the same as the last return submitted.

Five discharges by appraisements.

I have, &c.

T. H. Ponsonby, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *Geo. Kennedy, S. J. P.*

BARBADOS.

—No. 89.—

(No. 215.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *E. J. M. M'Gregor*, Bart.,
to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 89.

For the month of
August 1837.

My Lord, Government House, Barbados, 24 Sept. 1837.
COMMUNICATIONS from the stipendiary magistrates of Barbadoes, relative to
the questions they are required to answer monthly, are herewith forwarded to
your Lordship.

I have, &c.

(signed) *E. J. Murray M'Gregor*, Governor.

Enclosure 1, in No. 89.

Encl. 1, in No. 89.

Sir,

Town District A. 31 August 1837.

15 July 1836.

IN transmitting the journal for this month and Table (A.), as nothing has taken place to
require any change in the replies I have made during the last months to the circular de-
spatch of the Right honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, I have only to observe,
the gradual but great change that has taken place in the disposition of the apprentices
towards their employers, as well as of the latter towards their apprentices, corroborated in a
great manner by the few complaints I have had, as well as the few punishments I have been
obliged to inflict during the month; by the returns enclosed, there have been 30 voluntary
discharges, 15 discharges by private agreement, and five discharges by appraisement,
effected during the month of August.

I have, &c.

T. H. Ponsonby, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *F. D. Hutcheson*, S. J. P.

Enclosure 2, in No. 89.

Encl. 2, in No. 89.

Sir,

Station-house, District A. R. D., 4 September 1837.

I BEG to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that no
change of any consequence has taken place in my district since I had the honour of for-
warding to your office my last monthly report for July; if any change has taken place, it
seems for the better. Complaints are less numerous; and the apprentices have conducted
themselves well. The crops of all descriptions have a most promising appearance.

I have, &c.

To T. H. Ponsonby, Esq.

(signed) *John B. Colthurst*, S. J. P.

Enclosure 3, in No. 89.

Encl. 3, in No. 89.

A GENERAL REPORT of the state of District B. for August 1837.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

- No. 1.—TAKING every circumstance into consideration, the apprentices have not behaved
ill.
No. 2.—I regret to say a decided bad feeling still exists, and in my opinion has not in
the least decreased.
No. 3.—The work is performed willingly, excepting on those days they have to return
labour to their employer for the time they may have been in confinement.
No. 4.—Not altered since the commencement of these reports.
No. 5.—Not generally resorted to; the objection lies with the masters.
No. 6.—Generally; wages have been raised lately by two or three individuals to three
bits, or 1s. 3½ d. sterling; but this only temporary.
No. 7.—On some estates.
No. 8.—Deplorable generally; supported by their parents.
No. 9.—The facilities are good for education, but little sought after by the apprentices.
Attendance at church equal to the accommodation; additional chapels built
annually; schools not.
No. 10.—A very great desire; twenty-three discharged.
No. 11.—As in former reports.
No. 12.—Prospects of the crop are favourable; cultivation very good; rains have been
seasonable.
No. 13.—None at present.

(signed) *Jos^h Hamilton*, S. J. P.

Enclosure 4, in No. 89.

DISTRICT C.—MONTHLY REPORT from the 1st to the 31st August 1837.

Encl. 4, in No. 89.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

- No. 1.—A CONSIDERABLE increase of complaints for theft and idleness have taken place in the district since my last report.
- No. 2.—Generally speaking, no want of good feeling exists between masters and apprentices in this district.
- No. 3.—The apprentices in this district, generally speaking, perform their work most willingly.
- No. 4.—On most estates the working hours in this district are from six to nine in the morning, from ten to one, and from three to six, allowing intervals of relaxation, from nine until ten, and from one until three.
- No. 5.—Task-work is not generally resorted to in this district, which appears to be the mutual wish of masters and apprentices.
- No. 6.—It is usual for the apprentices in this district to work in their own time, and for money-wages, which average at 1 s. 1 d. for nine hours' labour, and paid in money.
- No. 7.—I am not prepared to say that there are any indulgences withheld from the apprentice labourer which it was usual during slavery for the estate to supply.
- No. 8.—The free children of this district are principally supported by their parents, but on some estates they are fed and taken care of the same as previous to the 1st August 1834.
- No. 9.—There are two churches in this district, with resident clergymen, and five chapels, all having schools attached, besides other schools throughout the district; still these do not afford education near adequate for the population requiring instruction. The attendance at the churches and at the schools is equal to the accommodation.
- No. 10.—There is a great desire on the part of the apprentice labourers to purchase their discharge. Twenty discharges were obtained last month, viz. sixteen by appraisement, two by private agreement, and two by free gift.
- No. 11.—Of the apprentices who obtain their discharge, some follow the same employment they did previous to obtaining it. Others go about trafficking, and keep little shops.
- No. 12.—The prospects of the ensuing crop hold forth to the planter the expectation of its being most abundant. The season as yet has been most favourable, and the cultivation good.
- No. 13.—I have not at present any suggestions to make, or practical measure to recommend.

(signed) *A. Cuppage, s. J. P.*

Enclosure 5, in No. 89.

DISTRICT D.

REPORT of the Special Magistrate of the above District, for the month of August 1837, in reply to the following Questions. Encl. 5, in No. 89.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

No. 1.—WHAT has been the general conduct of the apprentices in your district since your last report?

The greater number of the complaints exhibited monthly before me being for idleness and petty theft, and this being my only source of information, I conclude therefrom that the conduct of the apprentices of this district is idle and given to petty theft.

No. 2.—Is there any want of good feeling between them and their employers; and if so, to what cause do you attribute it?

In but very few instances that have come under my notice can it be said that a want of good feeling exists between the apprentice and his employer, and when this is the case, it generally has its origin in the idleness or insolence of the apprentice towards his employer. This, however, is only temporary.

BARBADOS.

QUESTIONS.

No. 3.—Do they perform their work willingly; and if not, to what do you ascribe it?

No. 4.—What are the working hours generally in use in your district? Are any, and what, intervals of relaxation allowed to the apprentices during the working hours?

No. 5.—Is task-work generally resorted to in your district? If not, does the objection lie with the masters or apprentices?

No. 6.—Is it usual for the apprentices to work in their own time for money-wages? If so, what is the ordinary rate of wages, and how are they paid? If not, have they been offered?

No. 7.—Are there any indulgences withheld which it was usual during slavery for the estate to supply?

No. 8.—What is the condition of the free children, and how are they supported?

No. 9.—What facilities does your district supply for education and religious instruction? Is the attendance at church and in the schools equal to the accommodation?

No. 10.—Is there a general desire among the apprentices to purchase their discharge? How many discharges have been effected since your last report?

No. 11.—To what kinds of employment do those who have obtained their discharge usually betake themselves?

ANSWERS.

The apprentices generally cannot be said to perform their work willingly; but where the apprentices in authority conduct themselves well, the others yield a more ready obedience to the law; where these are wanting, the reverse is mostly the consequence.

The working hours, except in crop season, when the apprentices are required, for obvious reasons, to be up earlier, are from six o'clock A. M. to six P. M., three hours of relaxation being allowed them within that time, viz. most commonly from the hour of nine to that of ten A. M., and from that of one to three P. M.

Task-work is not, I understand, generally resorted to, and when adopted, is rather as a resort against idleness than of choice; consequently the objection lies with the apprentices: yet even when had recourse to, the apprentices frequently finish the task assigned them as arranged by a scale of work approved of and directed by the late Governor-general Sir Lionel Smith to be a standard for task-work, before the nine hours of labour their masters are entitled to by law have expired.

The apprentices can get abundance of employment for money-wages in this district during their own time, would they be so employed, at the rate, to every effective labourer, of the sum of 1*s.* 6½*d.* in money and half a pint of rum, which increases the wages fully to 1*s.* 10½*d.* currency, which is given them at the expiration of their nine hours' labour; but such is their idleness and indolence of character, that it is difficult to get them to work for these wages.

Where the apprentices conduct themselves well, none of the indulgences supplied during slavery are withheld.

The free children, for the most part, are dependent for support on the allowances furnished their parents from the estates. Where, however, the parents conduct themselves well, few or none of the indulgences enjoyed by the children heretofore are withheld.

The only facilities afforded in this district for education, that I am aware of, are one weekly and three Sunday schools, the latter held at the places of divine worship by their respective ministers, two being of the Established Church and one of Moravians. The attendance at church is rather more than equal to the accommodation; but I am unable to state what that in the schools is.

I conclude, from the fact of several apprentices having had themselves appraised, without being able to produce the amount of their valuation, that the desire to purchase their discharge is general amongst the apprentices, and that the means only are wanting. Fourteen apprentices have been discharged during this month; viz. eight by appraisement, and six by the voluntary acts of proprietors.

For the most part, the discharged apprentices betake themselves to the calling of petty hawkers or huxters. Few or none can be got to engage in agricultural pursuits, especially on the sugar estates.

No. 12.

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QUESTIONS.

No. 12.—What are the prospects of the ensuing crop, and what the general state of cultivation? Has the season been favourable, or otherwise?

ANSWERS.

The prospect for the ensuing crop is at present favourable. The cultivation, generally speaking, is not as extended as during the state of slavery; and on many estates the lands are not kept in the high state of cultivation as heretofore. The rains, up to the present time, have been favourable; but great injury has been sustained by very many of the sugar estates, from the heavy gales of the last two months.

BARBADOS.

No. 13.—Have you any suggestions to make, or any practical measure to recommend?

None at present.

John J. Hough, S. J. P.

Enclosure 6, in No. 89.

Sir,

District E., 1 September 1837.

Encl. 6. in No. 89.

I BEG to state, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that it is with much pleasure I now discharge the monthly duty of reporting on the condition of the apprenticed labourers (imposed on the special magistrates in their several districts), inasmuch as I am enabled to confirm my previous statements relative to the general good understanding which prevails between master and dependent in the district under my jurisdiction. My best exertions are employed in cherishing this feeling, and the good effect resulting from its operation is to be found in the comparatively small number of complaints (monthly) when contrasted with the extensive number of apprentices within this district.

With reference to appraisements, 19 have taken place in the month of August, together with nine voluntary discharges, a particular return of which (together with a numerical return of appeal cases during the same period) is herewith transmitted to your office.

I have, &c.

Taylor H. Ponsonby, Esq.,
Acting Private Secretary, &c. &c. &c.
Government House.

(signed) *Joseph Garraway, S. J. P.*

Enclosure 7, in No. 89.

Sir,

District F., 1 September 1837.

Encl. 7, in No. 89.

I HAVE the honour to forward my journal for the month of August, also the other necessary returns.

My answers to the 13 questions are the same as heretofore.

Ten discharges by appraisements.

I have, &c.

T. H. Ponsonby, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *Geo. Kennedy, S. J. P.*

— No. 90. —

(No. 234.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *E. J. M. McGregor*, Bart.,
to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Government House, Barbados, 14 Oct. 1837.

No. 90.

COMMUNICATIONS from the special magistrates of Barbados, relative to the questions they are required to answer monthly, are herewith forwarded to your Lordship.

For the month of September 1837.

I have, &c.

(signed) *E. J. Murray McGregor*, Governor.

BARBADOS.

Encl. 1. in No. 90.

Enclosure 1, in No. 90.

Sir,

District A., Town Division, 2 October 1837.

I BEG leave to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that nothing of importance has occurred in this district during the last month.

The conduct of the apprentices, as far as I am able to judge, is good. Having only filled the chair of the district for the last month, I am yet unable to form a just opinion. At the close of this month I hope to have it in my power to report more fully upon this subject.

I have, &c.

To Edward H. Senhouse,
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *John B. Colthurst, s. j. p.*

Number of Discharges :

By appraisement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
„ agreement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
Without charge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39
TOTAL									54

Enclosure 2, in No. 90.

Encl. 2, in No. 90.

Sir,

Rural District A., 5 October 1837.

15 July 1836.

I HAVE the honour to state, for the information with reference to the Right honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies despatch, containing thirteen questions, to be answered monthly, that I have not been long enough in this district to answer with accuracy the questions therein contained, but I am of opinion, with some exceptions, that a good feeling subsists among the employers and apprentices of the rural district.

I have, &c.

E. H. Senhouse, Esq.
Acting Colonial Secretary, &c. &c. &c.

(signed) *F. D. Hutcheson, s. j. p.*

Number of Discharges :

By appraisement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
„ agreement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Voluntary discharges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
TOTAL									9

Enclosure 3, in No. 90.

Encl. 3, in No. 90.

A GENERAL REPORT of the state of District B. for September 1837.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

No 1.—THE conduct of the apprentices has been generally good.

No 2.—The same as last report.

No 3.—They do perform it willingly, except those days' labour they are compelled to make good to their employers for the time they are in confinement, considering it a second punishment under the inspection of their masters.

No 4.—From six to nine, then from ten to one, and then from three to six; the intervening hours they have for repose.

No 5.—As the last report.

No 6.—Invariably so. Wages 1 s. 1 d. sterling per day, with a little molasses or rum.

No 7.—Some are withheld.

No 8.—As the last report. Parents bring them up in idleness, occasioned by the great abhorrence they have to hiring them out from recollections of slavery.

No 9.—Same as last report.

No 10.—There is a general desire among the apprentices to purchase their discharge; but on the well-regulated estates there is not so much inclination shown: three males and five females have been discharged this month.

No 11.

No. 11.—Generally to their former employments, except the women, who take more to the domestic employment.

BARBADOS.

No. 12.—At present good ; season has been favourable.

No. 13.—I would suggest that clause 59* of the Island Abolition Act should be repealed. I am confident the number of complaints would be materially reduced, particularly from the minor properties.

(signed) *Joseph Hamilton, S. J. P.*

* The 59th clause is as follows :—

“ And be it further enacted, that every apprenticed labourer shall make good out of his or her extra days, to his or her employer, the time that his or her employer shall have been deprived of his or her services by the sentence of any special justice of the peace or court.”

Apprentices to make up for lost time.

There appear to me no grounds for applying to the council and assembly to repeal the foregoing clause.

(signed) *E. J. Murray McGregor,*
Governor.

Enclosure 4, in No. 90.

DISTRICT C.

MONTHLY REPORT from the 1st to the 30th of September 1837.

Encl. 4, in No. 90.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

No. 1.—A CONSIDERABLE decrease of complaints has taken place in this district since my last report.

No. 2.—Generally speaking, no want of good feeling exists between masters and apprentices in this district.

No. 3.—In this district, the apprentices, generally speaking, perform their work willingly.

No. 4.—On most estates the working hours in this district are from six to nine in the morning, from ten to one, and from three to six ; allowing intervals of relaxation from nine until ten, and from one until three.

No. 5.—Task-work is not generally resorted to in this district, which appears to be the mutual wish of masters and apprentices.

No. 6.—It is usual for the apprentices to work in their own time, and for money-wages, which average at 1 s. 1 d. for nine hours' labour, and paid in money.

No. 7.—I am not prepared to say that there are any indulgences withheld from the apprentice labourer which it was usual during slavery for the estate to supply.

No. 8.—The free children in this district are principally supported by their parents, but on some estates they are fed and taken care of the same as previous to the 1st August 1834.

No. 9.—There are two churches in this district, with resident clergymen, and five chapels, all having schools attached, besides other schools throughout the district ; still these do not afford education near adequate for the population requiring instruction ; the attendance at church and schools is equal to the accommodation.

No. 10.—There is a great desire on the part of the apprentice labourers to purchase their discharge ; sixteen discharges were obtained last month, viz. eight by appraisement, two by private agreement, and six by free gift.

No. 11.—Of the apprentices that obtain their discharge, some follow the same employment they did previous to obtaining it ; others go about trafficking, and keep little shops.

No. 12.—The prospects of the ensuing crop hold forth to the planter the expectation of its being most abundant. The season as yet has been most favourable, and the cultivation good.

No. 13.—I have not at present any suggestions to make, or practical measure to recommend.

(signed) *A. Cuppage, S. J. P.*

BARBADOS.

Enclosure 5, in No. 90.

Encl. 5, in No. 90.

DISTRICT D.

REPORT of Special Magistrate of the above District for the month of September 1837,
in answer to the following Questions.

QUESTIONS.	ANSWERS.
No. 1.—WHAT has been the general conduct of the apprentices in your district since your last report?	See report for August last.
No. 2.—Is there any want of good feeling between them and their employers; and if so, to what cause do you attribute it?	- - ditto.
No. 3.—Do they perform their work willingly; and if not, to what do you ascribe it?	- - ditto.
No. 4.—What are the working hours generally in use in your district? Are any, and what, intervals of relaxation allowed to the apprentices during the working hours?	- - ditto.
No. 5.—Is task-work generally resorted to in your district? If not, does the objection lie with the masters or apprentices?	- - ditto.
No. 6.—Is it usual for the apprentices to work in their own time for money-wages? If so, what is the ordinary rate of wages, and how are they paid? If not, have they been offered?	- - ditto.
No. 7.—Are there any indulgences withheld which it was usual during slavery for the estate to supply?	- - ditto.
No. 8.—What is the condition of the free children, and how are they supported?	- - ditto.
No. 9.—What facilities does your district supply for education and religious instruction? Is the attendance at church and in the schools equal to the accommodation?	- - ditto.
No. 10.—Is there a general desire among the apprentices to purchase their discharge? How many discharges have been effected since your last report?	- - ditto. Ten apprentices have been discharged during this month, viz. six by appraisement, and four by the voluntary acts of the proprietors.
No. 11.—To what kinds of employment do those who have obtained their discharge usually betake themselves?	See report for August last.
No. 12.—What are the prospects of the ensuing crop, and what the general state of cultivation? Has the season been favourable, or otherwise?	- - ditto.
No. 13.—Have you any suggestions to make, or any practical measure to recommend?	- - ditto.

(signed) *John J. Hough, S. J. P.*

Enclosure 6, in No. 90.

Encl. 6, in No. 90.

Sir,

District E., 7 October 1837.

You will be pleased to inform his Excellency the Governor, that although I have nothing material to report in addition to my last communication on the general condition of the apprentices in this district, still the return of this monthly duty affords me the opportunity of confirming the favourable statement therein noted; one solitary exception has, however, occurred in the case of a female apprentice, who was discharged by me from further apprenticeship, on the conviction of her employer for cruelty. (See case, No. 38, for September.)

The apprentices throughout this district are now well apprized of their right of appeal against their registry, in all cases where they may feel themselves aggrieved by the classification. Since this question was first agitated (in the month of May) up to the close of the month of September, a period of five months, 38 appeal cases on the part of apprentices to be non-prædials have been heard before me; 23 of which have been admitted, and 15 rejected. In imparting this necessary information to the apprentices, respecting their right of appeal, I have endeavoured to adopt such a course of conduct as would not lead to imaginary pretensions, and I am inclined to think that, as soon as the decisions on the several appeal cases become generally known among them, it will materially tend to diminish the

number

SLAVERY IN THE BRITISH COLONIES.

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number of unfounded applications on their part. With the view, therefore, of meeting his Excellency's wishes, respecting an early adjustment of this important question, I have given every publicity to the decisions on such appeals as have been already brought before me for adjudication.

I beg to add that eight appraisements and eight voluntary discharges have taken place during the month of September.

BARBADOS.

E. H. Senhouse, Esq.
Acting Colonial Secretary, &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Joseph Garraway*, S. J. P.

Enclosure 7, in No. 90.

Sir,

District G., 2 October 1837.

Encl. 7, in No. 90.

I HAVE the honour to forward my journal, with the various returns enclosed.

Seven discharged by
appraisements.

My answers to the thirteen questions for the Right honourable the Lord Glenelg are the same this month as before submitted.

Lieut. Senhouse, R. N.
Acting Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Geo. Kennedy*.

—No. 91.—

(No. 273.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *E. J. M. M'Gregor*, Bart., to
Lord *Glenelg*.

Government House, Barbados,
28 November 1837.

No. 91.

My Lord,

I do myself the honour of forwarding to your Lordship tables and reports of the special magistrates of this island during the month of October last.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. J. Murray M'Gregor*, Governor.

Enclosure 1, in No. 91.

Sir,

Barbados, Town Division, District A.
3 November 1837.

Encl. 1, in No. 91.

I BEG leave to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that nothing of any importance has occurred in my district during the last month. I have, however, pleasure in reporting that fewer cases have been brought before me during the month of October than during the month preceding; these also were of a more trivial nature.

Considering the temptations which present themselves in Bridge Town to induce the apprentices to conduct themselves improperly, I have satisfaction in saying that few are brought before me who seem to be utterly corrupted; impertinences, and absence from the employer's service, are the general grounds of complaint, which are the more likely to occur as almost the whole of the apprentice population of Bridge Town are domestic servants, and constantly in contact with the employer; upon the whole, however, the apprentices conduct themselves well.

I think it my duty to inform you that, in obedience to his Excellency's instructions, I commenced a close investigation into the classification of the apprentices of the district, by having lists taken of those in the possession of each individual, distinguishing the prædials from the non-prædials; these lists will be shortly furnished, when I shall proceed to the investigation of each individual case; and as there are not many hundred prædials, I hope to have it concluded before the end of the present year, as his Excellency requires. I consider the inquiry of the greatest importance, and shall, therefore, bestow the greatest attention upon it.

To E. H. Senhouse, Esq.
Acting Colonial Secretary, &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) *John B. Colthurst*, S. J. P.

P. S.—I have satisfaction in stating that many voluntary discharges have taken place during the last month; the whole number amounts to 25, out of which 19 have been discharged by the voluntary act of the employer.

(signed) *J. B. C.*

BARBADOS.

Enclosure 2, in No. 91.

Encl. 2, in No. 91.
Duplicate Journal.
Table (A.)
Return of Decisions
on Appeals from
Registry.
Return of Labour
performed by Penal
Gangs.
Return of Dis-
charges effected.
15 July 1836.

Sir,

Rural District A., 9 November 1837.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the returns, as per margin, for the last month, and to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that no change has taken place to require any reply different from the last, with reference to the 13 questions contained in the despatch of the Right honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies; and I am happy to state to his Excellency that there is progressive improvement in the feeling of employers and apprentices throughout this district generally.

I have, &c.

E. H. Senhouse, Esq.
Acting Colonial Secretary, &c. &c. &c.

(signed) *F. D. Hutcheson, s. j. p.*

Number of apprenticed Labourers discharged :

By agreement	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
„ appraisement	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
„ voluntary discharge	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
							14

Enclosure 3, in No. 91.

Encl. 3, in No. 91.

A GENERAL REPORT of the state of District B. for the month of October 1837.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

- No. 1.—THE general conduct of the apprentices has been very good.
No. 2.—The ill feeling quoted in my last report, in my opinion, has greatly subsided; managers are the persons I alluded to in that report, and not the proprietors.
No. 3.—They do perform their work willingly.
No. 4.—As in former reports.
No. 5.—As in former reports.
No. 6.—As in former report.
No. 7.—As in former reports.
No. 8.—As in former report.
No. 9.—As in former report.
No. 10.—A great desire; six males and 13 females have been discharged since last report.
No. 11.—The prædials generally follow their former avocations, excepting those females who have families, and their occupations vary.
No. 12.—The appearance of the ensuing crop is very good, and the crop forward; cultivation excellent; the season has been favourable.
No. 13.—I would submissively suggest, for the better government of the apprentices and their employers, that a medical board should be formed of disinterested* persons, to meet periodically in various parts of the island, to give their opinion and advice upon those critical cases so often brought before the special justices, which, without the aid of the profession, it is next to an impossibility for them to decide with satisfaction to themselves and with justice to the parties.

(signed) *Jos. Hamilton, s. j. p.*

* Disinterested medical gentlemen are not always to be found, nor can they be expected to meet periodically in various parts of the island, without obtaining payment for their proposed services, for which no legal provision has been made; and, unless they were to meet frequently, the business of the country might be so much retarded as to render the consequences of the intended remedy more embarrassing than those of the defect complained of.

(signed) *E. J. Murray M^cGregor, Governor.*

Enclosure 4, in No. 91.

Encl. 4, in No. 91.

DISTRICT C.

MONTHLY REPORT from the 1st to the 31st October 1837.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

- No. 1.—SINCE my last report, a considerable decrease of complaints has taken place in this district.
No. 2.—Generally speaking, no want of good feeling exists between masters and apprentices in this district.
No. 3.—The apprentices in most instances perform their work most willingly.
No. 4.—On most estates in this district, the working hours are from six to nine in the morning, from ten to one, and from three to six, allowing intervals of relaxation from nine until ten, and from one until three.
No. 5.—Task-work is not generally resorted to in this district, which appears to be the mutual wish of masters and apprentices.

No. 6.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

BARBADOS.

- No. 6.—It is usual for the apprentices to work in their own time and for money-wages, which average, at 1s. 1d. for nine hours' labour, and paid in money.
- No. 7.—I am not prepared to say that there are any indulgences withheld from the apprentice labourer which it was usual during slavery for the estate to supply.
- No. 8.—The free children in this district are principally supported by their parents; but on some estates they are fed and taken care of the same as previous to the 1st August 1834.
- No. 9.—There are two churches, with resident clergymen, and five chapels, all having schools attached, besides other schools throughout the district; still these do not afford education near adequate for the population requiring instruction. The attendance at the churches and schools is equal to the accommodation.
- No. 10.—There is a great desire on the part of the apprentice labourers to purchase their discharge; 13 discharges were obtained last month, viz., seven by appraisement, three by private agreement, and three by free gift.
- No. 11.—The apprentices who obtain their discharge, some follow the same employment they did previous to obtaining it, others go about trafficking and keeping shops.
- No. 12.—The prospects of the ensuing crop hold forth to the planter the expectation of its being most abundant. The season as yet has been most favourable, and the cultivation has been good.
- No. 13.—I have not at present any suggestions to make, or practical measure to recommend.

(signed) *A. Cuppage, S. J. P.*

Enclosure 5, in No. 91.

DISTRICT D.

REPORT of the Special Magistrate of the above District for the month of October 1837, Encl. 5, in No. 91.
in reply to the following Questions.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

- No. 1.—WHAT has been the general conduct of the apprentices in your district since your last report? See report for August last
- No. 2.—Is there any want of good feeling between them and their employers; and if so, to what cause do you ascribe it? - - ditto.
- No. 3.—Do they perform their work willingly; and if not, to what do you ascribe it? - - ditto.
- No. 4.—What are the working hours generally in use in your district? Are any, and what, intervals of relaxation allowed to the apprentices during the working hours? - - ditto.
- No. 5.—Is task-work generally resorted to in your district? If not, does the objection lie with the masters or apprentices? - - ditto.
- No. 6.—Is it usual for the apprentices to work in their own time for money-wages? If so, what is the ordinary rate of wages, and how are they paid? If not, have they been offered? - - ditto.
- No. 7.—Are there any indulgences withheld which it was usual during slavery for the estate to supply? - - ditto.
- No. 8.—What is the condition of the free children, and how are they supported? - - ditto.
- No. 9.—What facilities does your district supply for education and religious instruction? Is the attendance at church and in the schools equal to the accommodation? - - ditto.
- No. 10.—Is there a general desire among the apprentices to purchase their discharge? How many discharges have been effected since your last report? - - ditto.
Four by appraisement, and three by the voluntary acts of their employers.
- No. 11.—To what kinds of employment do those who have obtained their discharge usually betake themselves? See report for August last.
- No. 12.—What are the prospects of the ensuing crop, and what the general state of cultivation? Has the season been favourable, or otherwise? - - ditto.
- No. 13.—Have you any suggestions to make, or any practical measure to recommend? - - ditto.

John J. Hough, S. J. P.

BARBADOS.

Enclosure 6, in No. 91.

Encl. 6, in No. 91.

Sir,

District E., 20 November 1837.

WITH reference to the monthly queries proposed for the special magistrates' reply, I have the honour to state, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that having nothing of importance to represent in addition to the matter noted in my last report for the month of September, I respectfully request that his Excellency will be pleased to refer to the same, as illustrative of the condition of this district for the present month of October.

I beg to add, that 10 appraisements and 10 voluntary discharges have been effected during the same period.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Joseph Garraway, S. J. P.*

To Edward H. Senhouse, Esq.
Acting Colonial Secretary, &c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 7, in No. 91.

Encl. 7, in No. 91.

Sir,

District F., 2 October 1837.

I HAVE the honour to forward my journal with the various reports for the month of October.

There have been no appraisements in this district for the above month.

My answers to thirteen questions are the same as last submitted.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Geo. Kennedy*, S. J. P.

E. H. Senhouse, Esq.
Acting Colonial Secretary.

(No. 288.)

— No. 92. —

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *E. J. M. McGregor*, Bart., to
Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 92.

My Lord,

Government House, Barbados,
18 December 1837.

I do myself the honour of forwarding to your Lordship tables and reports of the special magistrates of this island during the month of November last.

I have, &c.

(signed) *E. J. Murray M'Gregor*, Governor.

Enclosure 1, in No. 92.

Encl. 1, in No. 92.

Sir,

District A., Town Division, 3 Dec. 1837.

I BEG to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency, that nothing worth remarking has occurred in my district since my last report for October, to which I beg you to refer.

The apprentices generally conduct themselves well, the greater number of whom are non-prædials; 22 domestics were manumitted last month without charge, thereby showing good feeling on the part of the employers, as well as proof of good conduct on the part of the apprentices.

I have, &c.

To E. H. Senhouse, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *John B. Colthurst, S. J. P.*

Discharges by appraisalment	-	-	-	-	-	4
" agreement	-	-	-	-	-	15
Voluntary discharges	-	-	-	-	-	22
						—
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-	41

Enclosure 2, in No. 92.

BARBADOS.

Sir,

Rural District A., 9 December 1837.

Encl. 2, in No. 92.

I HAVE the honour to state, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that I see no reason to alter my last month's report, with reference to the circular despatch containing 13 questions.

15 July 1836.

The good feeling still subsists as stated in it.

Fifteen discharges from apprenticeship have been effected during the last month, nine by appraisement, one by agreement, and five voluntary discharges.

I have, &c.

(signed)

F. D. Hutcheson, S. J. P.

Enclosure 3, in No. 92.

A GENERAL REPORT of the state of District B. during the month of November 1837.

Encl. 3, in No. 92.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

No. 1.—THE conduct of the apprentices has been very good.

No. 2.—A better feeling exists at present.

No. 3.—They do work willingly.

No. 4.—As in former reports.

No. 5.—As in former reports.

No. 6.—Yes; wages from 1 s. 1 d. to 1 s. 3 ½ d. sterling per day, for first-class field people, but generally the former.

No. 7.—As in former reports.

No. 8.—As in former report.

No. 9.—As in former report.

No. 10.—Yes; four males and nine females discharged.

No. 11.—As in former reports.

No. 12.—Prospects of ensuing crop good, and the cultivation excellent; season generally favourable.

No. 13.—None at present.

(signed)

Joseph Hamilton, S. J. P.

Enclosure 4, in No. 92.

DISTRICT C.

MONTHLY REPORT from the 1st to the 30th November 1837.

Encl. 4, in No. 92.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

No. 1.—THE general conduct of the apprentice labourers in this district since my last report has been good.

No. 2.—Generally speaking, no want of good feeling exists between master and apprentice labourer.

No. 3.—With few exceptions, the apprentices, generally speaking, perform their work most willingly.

No. 4.—On most estates the working hours are from six to nine in the morning, from ten to one, and from three to six, allowing intervals of relaxation from nine until ten, and from one until three.

No. 5.—Task-work is not generally resorted to in this district, which appears to be the mutual wish of masters and apprentices.

No. 6.—It is usual for the apprentice labourers in this district to work in their own time, and for money-wages, which average at 1 s. 1 d. for nine hours' labour, and paid in money.

No. 7.—I am not prepared to say that there are any indulgences withheld from the apprentice labourer which it was usual during slavery for the estate to supply.

No. 8.—The free children in this district are principally supported by their parents, but on some estates they are fed and taken care of the same as previous to the 1st August 1834.

No. 9.—There are two churches in this district, with resident clergymen, and five chapels, all having schools attached, besides other schools throughout the district; still these do not afford education near adequate for the population requiring instruction. The attendance at church and at the schools is equal to the accommodation.

BARBADOS.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

- No. 10.—There is a great desire on the part of the apprentice labourers to purchase their discharge; 17 were obtained last month, viz. 10 by appraisement, three by private agreement, and four by free gift.
- No. 11.—Of the apprentice labourers who obtain their discharge, some follow the same occupation they did previous to receiving it, and others go about trafficking.
- No. 12.—The prospects of the ensuing crop holds forth to the planter the expectations of its being most abundant; the season has been most favourable, and the cultivation good.
- No. 13.—I have not at present any suggestions to make, or practical measure to recommend.

(signed) *A. Cuppage, s. J. P.*

Enclosure 5, in No. 92.

DISTRICT D.

Encl. 5, in No. 92. REPORT of the Special Magistrate of the above District for the month of November 1837-
in reply to the following Questions.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

- No. 1.—WHAT has been the general conduct of the apprentices in your district since your last report? See report for August last.
- No. 2.—Is there any want of good feeling between them and their employers; and if so, to what cause do you attribute it? - - ditto.
- No. 3.—Do they perform their work willingly; and if not, to what cause do you ascribe it? - - ditto.
- No. 4.—What are the working hours generally in use in your district? Are any, and what, intervals of relaxation allowed to the apprentices during their working hours? - - ditto.
- No. 5.—Is task-work generally resorted to in your district? If not, does the objection lie with the masters or apprentices? - - ditto.
- No. 6.—Is it usual for the apprentices to work in their own time for money-wages? If so, what is the ordinary rate of wages, and how are they paid? If not, have they been offered? - - ditto.
- No. 7.—Are there any indulgences withheld which it was usual during slavery for the estate to supply? - - ditto.
- No. 8.—What is the condition of the free children, and how are they supported? - - ditto.
- No. 9.—What facilities does your district supply for education and religious instruction? Is the attendance at church and in the schools equal to the accommodation? - - ditto.
- No. 10.—Is there a general desire among the apprentices to purchase their discharge? How many discharges have been effected since your last report? Seven; four by appraisement, and three by the voluntary acts of their employers.
- No. 11.—To what kinds of employment do those who have obtained their discharge usually betake themselves? See report for August last.
- No. 12.—What are the prospects of the ensuing crop, and what the general state of cultivation? Has the season been favourable, or otherwise? - - ditto.
- No. 13.—Have you any suggestions to make, or any practical measure to recommend? - - ditto.

(signed) *John J. Hough, s. J. P.*

Enclosure 6, in No. 92.

Encl. 6, in No. 92.

Sir,

District E., 7 December 1837.

IN discharging the usual monthly duty of reporting on the state of the district under my charge, I have the honour to represent, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that no circumstances have occurred during the last month (November) to check the general good understanding which, I feel pleasure to add, at present subsists between employers

employers and apprentices within my jurisdiction. There are, doubtless, many reasons to which the existence of this desirable feeling may be attributed; but I am inclined to think that, as the period of service becomes gradually diminished, it has led to the conviction that a community of interest at this stage of the apprenticeship between masters and dependents is so intimately blended with the future success of both (in their relative situations) that it has now become imperative to employ the medium of conciliation, rather than that of coercion, to produce a favourable result, when the important experiment now in operation shall have been finally concluded in 1840. The very promising appearance of the crop about to be reaped in the course of a few short months justifies the announcement of fair average labour on the part of the apprentices, while the insignificant number of punishments inflicted during the month of November (100, per Table (A.), out of a population of 13,000) is an additional proof that the general duties exacted by the laws, which more especially bind the employer and apprentice, continue to be discharged by the latter in a creditable and satisfactory manner.

I have, in conclusion, to report that 18 appraisements and voluntary discharges have occurred during the month of November.

I have, &c.

Edward H. Senhouse, Esq.
Acting Colonial Secretary, &c. &c. &c.

(signed) *Joseph Garraway, s. j. p.*

Enclosure 7, in No. 92.

Sir,

District F., 1 December 1837. Encl. 7, in No. 92.

I BEG to forward my various returns for the month of November, with my journal.

My answers to thirteen questions for the Right honourable the Colonial Secretary are the same as last submitted.

I have, &c.

E. H. Senhouse, Esq.

(signed) *Geo. Kennedy, s. j. p.*

Discharges by appraisement - - - - - 1

— No. 93. —

(No. 13.)

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *E. J. M. McGregor*, Bart.,
to Lord *Glenelg*, dated Government House, Barbados, 27 January 1838.

I HEREWITH forward the reports and tables of the several special magistrates for the month of December 1837.

No. 93.

Enclosure 1, in No. 93.

Sir,

District A., Town Division, 2 January 1838.

Encl. 1, in No. 93.

I BEG leave to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that nothing of any moment has occurred in this district since I had the honour of transmitting to your office my last monthly report for November 1837.

I have, however, much pleasure in stating that the conduct of the apprentices has been good during the month of December, and free discharges continue to increase in number. These are confined to the non-prædial class.

In consequence of the apprentice population of this district being almost exclusively composed of the non-prædial class, or domestics, only one case of appeal has been brought before me during the last month, which was successful, and the complainants' class altered accordingly.

In obedience to his Excellency's instructions, forwarded to the special magistrates through your office, requiring them to adjust the classification, to the best of their power, by the end of the last year, I beg leave to inform you, that after instituting a critical inquiry into the claims of the apprentices in this respect, I find that no inclination at present exists to any extent to avail themselves of their rights of appeal; indeed, there are so very few prædial labourers in the district, I anticipate no trouble on this account, either now or at any future period.

I have, &c.

To E. H. Senhouse, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *John B. Colthurst, s. j. p.*

BARBADOS.

Enclosure 2, in No. 93.

Encl. 2, in No. 93.

Sir,

Rural District A., 10 January 1838.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for the information of the Right honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, my report for the month of December 1837, to his circular despatch, 15 July 1836.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

No. 1.—WHAT has been the general conduct of the apprentices in your district since your last report?

Very good; only 34 punishments among 8,966 apprentices for the month of December.

No. 2.—Is there any want of good feeling between them and their employers; and if so, to what cause do you attribute it?

None, that I am aware of.

No. 3.—Do they perform their work willingly; and if not, to what cause do you attribute it?

From the few complaints, I have every reason to believe they do.

No. 4.—What are the working hours generally in use in your district? Are any, and what, intervals of relaxation allowed to the apprentices during the working hours?

Forty-five hours per week, between 6 A.M. and 6 P.M., from Monday morning to Friday evening. No intervals of relaxation allowed, that I am aware of.

No. 5.—Is task-work resorted to in your district? If not, does the objection lie with the masters or the apprentices?

No; I am not aware where the objection lies.

No. 6.—Is it usual for the apprentices to work in their own time for money-wages? If so, what is the ordinary rate of wages, and how are they paid? If not, have they been offered?

Yes; quarter-dollar per day is the ordinary rate; they are paid in money.

No. 7.—Are any indulgences withheld which it was usual during slavery for the estate to supply?

I am not aware of their getting any indulgences now, but at Christmas.

No. 8.—What is the condition of the free children, and how are they supported?

But indifferent; I believe by their mothers generally.

No. 9.—What facilities does your district supply for education and religious instruction? Is the attendance at church and in the schools equal to the accommodation?

There are four Protestant chapels, with schools attached, besides Moravian. I believe it is; certainly at church.

No. 10.—Is there a general desire among the apprentices to purchase their discharge; and how many discharges have been effected since your last report?

Yes; eleven since last report.

No. 11.—To what kinds of employment do those who have obtained their discharge usually betake themselves?

To their usual trades or employments; those who do not, to the employment of hucksters or pedlars.

No. 12.—What are the prospects of the ensuing crop, and what the general state of cultivation? Has the season been favourable, or otherwise?

Good; has been favourable.

To the Under-Secretary of State,
Colonial Office.

I have, &c.
(signed) *F. D. Hutcheson, S. J. P.*

Enclosure 3, in No. 93.

Encl. 3, in No. 93.

A REPORT of the general state of District B. during the month of December 1837.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

No. 1.—THE conduct of the apprentices has been very good.

No. 2.—There appears to be a much better feeling between master and apprentice.

No. 3.—The same as other reports.

No. 4.—The same as previously reported.

No. 5.—The same as previously reported.

No. 6.—The same as previously reported.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

- No. 7.—The same as previously reported.
 No. 8.—The same as previously reported.
 No. 9.—The same as previously reported.
 No. 10.—There is.
 No. 11.—The same as previously reported.
 No. 12.—Every appearance of an abundant crop; the cultivation excellent; the season has been favourable.
 No. 13.—Not at present.

(signed) *Jos^h Hamilton, S. J. P.*

Enclosure 4, in No. 93.

DISTRICT C.

MONTHLY REPORT from the 1st to the 31st December 1837.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

- No. 1.—The general conduct of the apprentice labourers in this district since my last report has been good. Encl. 4, in No. 93.
 No. 2.—Generally speaking, no want of good feeling exists between masters and apprentices.
 No. 3.—The apprentices, generally speaking, perform their work most willingly in this district.
 No. 4.—On most estates, the working hours are from six to nine in the morning, from ten to one, and from three to six, allowing intervals of relaxation from nine until ten, and from one until three.
 No. 5.—Task-work is not generally resorted to in this district, which appears to be the mutual wish of masters and apprentices.
 No. 6.—It is usual for the apprentices to work in their own time, and for money-wages, which average, at 1s. 1d. for nine hours' labour, and paid in money.
 No. 7.—I am not prepared to say that there are any indulgences withheld from the apprentice labourer which it was usual during slavery for the estate to supply.
 No. 8.—The free children in this district are principally supported by their parents, but on some estates they are fed and taken care of the same as previous to the 1st August 1834.
 No. 9.—There are two churches in this district, with resident clergymen, and five chapels, all having schools attached, besides other schools throughout the district; still these do not afford education near adequate for the population requiring instruction. The attendance at church and at the schools is equal to the accommodation.
 No. 10.—There is a great desire on the part of the apprentice labourers to purchase their discharge. Eleven discharges were obtained last month, viz. eight by appraisement, two by free gift, and one by private agreement.
 No. 11.—Of the apprentices who obtain their discharge, some follow the same employment they did previous to obtaining it, and others go about trafficking.
 No. 12.—The prospects of the ensuing crop hold forth to the planter the expectation of its being most abundant. The season as yet has been most favourable, and the cultivation good.
 No. 13.—I have not at present any suggestions to make, or practical measures to recommend.

(signed) *A. Cuppage, S. J. P.*

Enclosure 5, in No. 93.

DISTRICT D.

REPORT of the Special Magistrate of the above District for the month of December 1837, Encl. 5, in No. 93. in reply to the following Questions.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

- No. 1.—WHAT has been the general conduct of the apprentices in your district since your last report? See report for August last.
 No. 2.—Is there any want of good feeling between them and their employers; and if so, to what cause do you attribute it? - - ditto.
 No. 3.—Do they perform their work willingly; and if not, to what do you ascribe it? - - ditto.
 No. 4.—What are the working hours generally in use in your district? Are any, and what, intervals of relaxation allowed to the apprentices during the working hours? - - ditto.

BARBADOS.

QUESTIONS.	ANSWERS.
No. 5.—Is task-work generally resorted to in your district? If not, does the objection lie with the masters or apprentices?	See report for August last.
No. 6.—Is it usual for the apprentices to work in their own time for money-wages? If so, what is the ordinary rate of wages, and how are they paid? If not, have they been offered?	- - ditto.
No. 7.—Are there any indulgences withheld which it was usual during slavery for the estate to supply?	- - ditto.
No. 8.—What is the condition of the free children, and how are they supported?	- - ditto.
No. 9.—What facilities does your district supply for education and religious instruction? Is the attendance at church and in the schools equal to the accommodation?	- - ditto.
No. 10.—Is there a general desire among the apprentices to purchase their discharge? How many discharges have been effected since your last report?	- - ditto. Five; two by appraisement and three by the voluntary acts of their employers.
No. 11.—To what kinds of employment do those who have obtained their discharge usually betake themselves?	See report for August last.
No. 12.—What are the prospects of the ensuing crop, and what the general state of cultivation? Has the season been favourable, or otherwise?	- - ditto.
No. 13.—Have you any suggestions to make or any practical measure to recommend?	- - ditto.
(signed)	<i>John J. Hough, S. J. P.</i>

Enclosure 6, in No. 93.

Encl. 6, in No. 93.

Sir,

District E., 31 December 1837.

I BEG respectfully to solicit his Excellency's reference to the report which I had the honour to transmit for the preceding month of November, as exhibiting a correct estimate of the condition of this district for the present month of December.

I have only in addition to remark, that six voluntary discharges have been recorded in this office during the same period.

E. H. Senhouse, Esq.
Acting Colonial Secretary, &c. &c. &c.

(signed) I have, &c.
Joseph Garraway, S. J. P.

Enclosure 7, in No. 93.

Encl. 7, in No. 93.

Sir,

District F., 2 January 1838.

I HAVE the honour to forward my journal and various reports for the month of December.

My answers to 13 questions for the Right honourable the Secretary of State are the same as last submitted.

E. H. Senhouse, Esq.
Acting Colonial Secretary.

(signed) I have, &c.
Geo. Kennedy, S. J. P.

Enclosure 8, in No. 93.

Encl. 8, in No. 93.

Sir,

District G., 6 January 1838.

IN transmitting to you my duplicate journal for the month of December, as well as Table (A.), I beg leave to state, that the answers usually appended by the magistrates to their reports are omitted by me in this instance, because my recent assumption of the office prevents me from offering any opinion upon the working of the apprenticeship system.

During the above period the classification of one prædial labourer has been altered to that of non-prædial, but I have not had any appraisements.

E. H. Senhouse, Esq.
Acting Colonial Secretary, &c. &c. &c.

(signed) I have, &c.
Henry Loving, S. J. P.

—No. 94.—

BARBADOS

(No. 31.)

No. 94.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *E. J. M. M'Gregor*, Bart.,
to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Government House, Barbados, 22 Feb. 1838.

I do myself the honour of forwarding to your Lordship tables and reports of the special magistrates of this island during the month of January last.

I have, &c.

(signed) *E. J. M. M'Gregor*, Governor.

Enclosure 1, in No. 94.

DISTRICT A., Town Division.

REPORT of the Special Magistrate of the above District for the month of January 1838, in Encl. 1, in No. 94.
reply to the following Questions.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

No. 1.—WHAT has been the general conduct of the apprentices in your district since your last report?

I am to presume that the majority of apprentices are conducting themselves in a proper manner, otherwise there would not have been so few complaints on the part of employers.

No. 2.—Is there any want of good feeling between them and their employers; and if so, to what cause do you attribute it?

In the cases that have come before me during this month, there has been a want of good feeling; attributable, where the employer is complainant, to neglect of duty and idleness on the part of the apprentice; and where the former is defendant, to acts of deliberate oppression.

No. 3.—Do they perform their work willingly; and if not, to what do you ascribe it?

The answer to this question is involved in the preceding one.

No. 4.—Relating to working hours and intervals of relaxation?

Do not apply to this district, which is chiefly composed of non-prædials, who are obliged to serve at all hours.

No. 5.—Regarding task-work?

Read the foregoing answer.

No. 6.—Apprentices working in their own time?

Ditto.

No. 7.—With reference to indulgences in the time of slavery being withheld now?

This question applies to plantations.

No. 8.—What is the condition of the free children, and how are they supported?

Their condition is worse than during the time of slavery, because they are, except with a few humane employers, thrown wholly upon their parents for maintenance, who are also obliged to furnish them with medical care.

No. 9.—What facilities does your district supply for education and religious instruction? Is the attendance at church and in the schools equal to the accommodation?

Considerable; yes.

No. 10.—Is there a general desire among the apprentices to purchase their discharge? How many discharges have been effected since your last report?

The desire is very prevalent. During the month there have been 79 discharges; 23 by purchase, and 56 by the voluntary act of employers.

No. 11.—To what kinds of employment do those who have obtained their discharge usually betake themselves?

To the same occupations that they have been bred; whether as tradesmen, domestics, or otherwise.

No. 12.—What are the prospects of the ensuing crop, and what the general state of cultivation? Has the season been favourable, or otherwise?

The crop will be an abundant one; cultivation is in the highest state, generally, and the season is favourable.

No. 13.—Have you any suggestions to make, or any practical measure to recommend?

I have no suggestions to make, nor measures to recommend, unless it was contemplated by the local legislature to amend the existing Apprenticeship Law.

(signed) *Henry Loving*, S. J. P.

BARBADOS.

Enclosure 2, in No. 94.

Encl. 2, in No. 94.

15 July 1836.

Sir,

Rural District A., 7 February 1838.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for the information of the Right honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, my report for the month of January 1838, to his circular despatch, containing 13 questions to be reported on monthly by the special magistrates.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

No. 1.—WHAT has been the general conduct of the apprentices in your district since your last report?

Very good.

No. 2.—Is there any want of good feeling between them and their employers; and if so, to what cause do you attribute it?

None, that I am aware of.

No. 3.—Do they perform their work willingly; and if not, to what do you ascribe it?

From the few complaints, I have every reason to believe they do.

No. 4.—What are the working hours generally in use in your district? Are any, and what, intervals of relaxation allowed to the apprentices during the working hours?

Forty-five hours per week, from six A.M. to six P.M.; no relaxation allowed, that I am aware of.

No. 5.—Is task-work generally resorted to in your district? If not, does the objection lie with the masters or the apprentices?

No; I am not aware where the objection lies.

No. 6.—Is it usual for the apprentices to work in their own time for money-wages? If so, what is the ordinary rate of wages, and how are they paid? If not, have they been offered?

Yes; quarter of a dollar per day; they are paid in money.

No. 7.—Are any indulgences withheld which it was usual during slavery for the estate to supply?

I am not aware of their getting any indulgences now.

No. 8.—What is the condition of the free children, and how are they supported?

But indifferent; I believe by their mothers generally.

No. 9.—What facilities does your district supply for education and religious instruction? Is the attendance at church and in the schools equal to the accommodation?

There are four Protestant chapels with schools attached, besides Moravian; the attendance is equal to the accommodation, I believe.

No. 10.—Is there a general desire among the apprentices to purchase their discharge; and how many discharges have been effected since your last report?

Yes; fifteen since last report.

No. 11.—To what kinds of employment do those who have obtained their discharge usually betake themselves?

To their usual trades or employments; those that have not any, to hucksters or pedlars.

No. 12.—What are the prospects of the ensuing crop, and what the general state of cultivation? Has the season been favourable, or otherwise?

Very good; yes.

No. 13.—Have you any suggestions to make, or any practical measure to recommend?

None.

I have, &c.

(signed) F. D. Hutcheson, S. J. P.

Enclosure 3, in No. 94.

DISTRICT B.

Encl. 3, in No. 94.

A GENERAL REPORT of the State of District B. during the month of January 1838.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

No. 1.—THE conduct of the apprentices has been very good.

No. 2.—A better feeling exists.

No. 3.—Yes.

No. 4.—The same as usual.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

- No. 5.—It is not; the cause as in former reports.
- No. 6.—Yes; I think of late they have shown a greater inclination to do so, especially upon those properties where they are not treated harshly.
- No. 7.—As in former reports. In this district an estate has been lately purchased by a gentleman in a public office, who has adopted a most salutary way to check misconduct in the apprentices, as well as to encourage and attach them to the property: "All those who pass the week without complaint against them are allowed an additional pound of fish, and a small quantity of molasses and salt on Friday evening; those who misbehave are rejected." It has reduced the complaints from this estate materially.
- No. 8.—As former reports.
- No. 9.—As former report.
- No. 10.—More so as the periods draw nigh. Six males and fourteen females have been discharged, the greater portion the gift of the employer.
- No. 11.—As former report.
- No. 12.—The ensuing crop very good, a very abundant one; the young crop looking very healthy; cultivation very good; season has been very favourable, especially for the young crop.
- No. 13.—None at present.

(signed) *Josh Hamilton, S. J. P.*

Enclosure 4, in No. 94.

DISTRICT C.

MONTHLY REPORT from the 1st to the 31st January 1838.

Encl. 4, in No. 94.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

- No. 1.—THE general conduct of the apprentice labourers in this district since my last report has been good.
- No. 2.—No want of good feeling exists, generally speaking, between masters and apprentices.
- No. 3.—The apprentices in this district, generally speaking, perform their work willingly.
- No. 4.—On most estates the working hours are from six to nine in the morning, from ten to one, and from three to six, allowing intervals of relaxation from nine to ten, and from one to three.
- No. 5.—Task-work is not generally resorted to in this district, which appears to be the mutual wish of masters and apprentices.
- No. 6.—It is usual for the apprentices to work in their own time, and for money-wages, which average at 1s. 1d. for nine hours' labour, and paid in money.
- No. 7.—I am not prepared to say that there are any indulgences withheld from the apprentice labourer which it was usual during slavery for the estate to supply.
- No. 8.—The free children in this district are principally supported by their parents, but on some estates they are fed and taken care of the same as previous to the 1st August 1834.
- No. 9.—There are two churches in this district, with resident clergymen, and five chapels, all having schools attached, besides other schools throughout the district; still these do not afford education near adequate for the population requiring instruction. The attendance at church and at the schools is equal to the accommodation.
- No. 10.—There is a great desire on the part of the apprentice labourers to purchase their discharge; twenty-seven were obtained last month, viz., nine by appraisement and eighteen by free gift.
- No. 11.—The apprentices who obtain their discharge, some follow the same employment they did previous to obtaining it, and others go about trafficking.
- No. 12.—The prospects of the present crop hold forth to the planter the expectation of its being most abundant. The season has been most favourable, and the cultivation good.
- No. 13.—I have not at present any suggestions to make, or practical measure to recommend.

(signed) *A. Cuppage, S. J. P.*

BARBADOS.

Enclosure 5, in No. 94.

DISTRICT D.

Encl. 5, in No. 94.

REPORT of the Special Magistrate of the above District for month of January 1838, in reply to the following Questions.

QUESTIONS.	ANSWERS.
No. 1.—WHAT has been the general conduct of the apprentices in your district since your last report?	See report for August last.
No. 2.—Is there any want of good feeling between them and their employers; and if so, to what cause do you attribute it?	- - ditto.
No. 3.—Do they perform their work willingly; and if not, to what do you ascribe it?	- - ditto.
No. 4.—What are the working hours generally in use in your district? Are any, and what, intervals of relaxation allowed to the apprentices during the working hours?	- - ditto.
No. 5.—Is task-work generally resorted to in your district? If not, does the objection lie with the masters or apprentices?	- - ditto.
No. 6.—Is it usual for the apprentices to work in their own time for money-wages? If so, what is the ordinary rate of wages, and how are they paid? If not, have they been offered?	- - ditto.
No. 7.—Are there any indulgences withheld which it was usual during slavery for the estate to supply?	- - ditto.
No. 8.—What is the condition of the free children, and how are they supported?	- - ditto.
No. 9.—What facilities does your district supply for education and religious instruction? Is the attendance at church and in the schools equal to the accommodation?	- - ditto.
No. 10.—Is there a general desire among the apprentices to purchase their discharge? How many discharges have been effected since your last report?	- - ditto. Seventeen; six by appraisement, and eleven by the voluntary acts of their proprietors.
No. 11.—To what kinds of employment do those who have obtained their discharge usually betake themselves?	See report for August last.
No. 12.—What are the prospects of the ensuing crop, and what the general state of cultivation?	- - ditto.
No. 13.—Have you any suggestions to make, or any practical measure to recommend?	- - ditto.

(signed) John J. Hough, S. J. P.

Enclosure 6, in No. 94.

Encl. 6, in No. 94.

Sir,

District E., 10 February 1838.

I HAVE the honour to state, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that the district under my charge has, during the last month of January, experienced no susceptible change from the general remarks which have accompanied my previous reports on this subject.

The obligations which bind the master and dependent continue (with some slight exceptions on either side) to be fairly fulfilled, and an abundant harvest is confidently expected from the productive crop now about to be reaped.

Thirty-two appraisements and seven voluntary discharges have taken place during the month.

I have, &c.

C. T. Cunningham, Esq. Colonial Secretary,
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) Jos. Garraway, S. J. P.

Enclosure 7, in No 94.

BARBADOS.

Sir,

District F., 6 February 1838.

Encl. 7, in No. 94.

I BEG to forward the accompanying returns for the month of January, with my journal. The answers to thirteen questions for the Right honourable the Secretary of the Colonies are the same as last submitted.

C. J. Cunningham, Esq. C. S.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Geo. Kennedy, S. J. P.*

Enclosure 8, in No. 94.

DISTRICT G., from 1st to 31st January 1838.

Encl. 8, in No. 94.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

No. 1.—WHAT has been the general conduct of the apprentices in your district since your last report?

No. 2.—Is there any want of good feeling between them and their employers; and if so, to what cause do you attribute it?

No. 3.—Do they perform their work willingly; and if not, to what do you ascribe it?

No. 4.—What are the working hours generally in use in your district? Are any, and what, intervals of relaxation allowed to the apprentices during the working hours?

No. 5.—Is task-work generally resorted to in your district? If not, does the objection lie with the masters or the apprentices?

No. 6.—Is it usual for the apprentices to work in their own time for money-wages? If so, what is the ordinary rate of wages, and how are they paid? If not, have they been offered?

No. 7.—Are any indulgences withheld which it was usual during slavery for the estate to supply?

No. 8.—What is the condition of the free children, and how are they supported?

No. 9.—What facilities does your district supply for education and religious instruction? Is the attendance at church and in the schools equal to the accommodation?

No. 10.—Is there a general desire among the apprentices to purchase their discharge? How many discharges have been effected since your last report?

No. 11.—To what kinds of employment do those who have obtained their discharge usually betake themselves?

No. 12.—What are the prospects of the ensuing crop, and what the general state of cultivation? Has the season been favourable, or otherwise?

No. 13.—Have you any suggestions to make, or any practical measure to recommend?

The very short time I have been in the district (this being the first month) has not as yet afforded me sufficient opportunity to form a correct opinion on these points.

The working hours generally in use, I understand, are from six to nine, then from ten to one o'clock, and from three to six. From nine till ten is allowed for breakfast, and from one till three for dinner hours.

As far as my inquiries have as yet extended, there appears an objection with the employer to resort to task-work, assigning as a reason the hurried and careless manner it is performed.

These are points I am unable as yet to afford correct information on.

No instance of the kind has come to my knowledge.

I have had no opportunity of ascertaining the condition of the free children in this large and populous district, and confess I am at a loss how to ascertain the required information as to their education, religious instruction, &c., there not being records in this office on the subject.

During the month of January, two apprentices have purchased their discharge by private agreement, and four by appraisement, but I am not aware of their present occupation or employment.

As far as I can form an opinion, the prospect of the ensuing crop is good, and the season favourable.

None.

(signed) *J. J. Tirling,*
Special Justice, District G.

BARBADOS.

— No. 95. —

(No. 291.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *E. J. M. M'Gregor*, Bart.,
to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 95.

My Lord,

Government House, Barbados, 30 December 1837.

21 Dec. 1837.

No. 1.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting, for your Lordship's information, the copy of a Proclamation, which, by and with the advice of Her Majesty's Council, it has appeared to me expedient to publish in this colony (with the intention of renewing it eventually, if requisite), for the purpose of affording every timely facility to the correct classification of the apprenticed population before the separation, by their attainment of entire freedom, of the non-prædial apprentices from their prædial brethren, on the 1st of August 1838.

The motives that have led to my adoption of this measure are explained in the following extracts of a circular letter addressed by my directions, on the 4th of July last, to the special magistrates of Barbados.

"The servitude of the non-prædial apprentices expiring in August 1838, it is expedient to place beyond doubt, that an opportunity has been offered at or before that period to any individuals deeming themselves properly belonging to this class, to substantiate their claims to freedom.

"Notwithstanding the probability that many unfounded applications will be submitted when the apprenticed labourers are communicated with upon this subject, the Governor prefers encountering the risk of intermediate inconvenience rather than that of exposing the community to the more distant yet more serious embarrassment that might be incurred, by leaving these possible pretensions to accumulate unexamined, until suddenly stimulated into action by the arrival of that approaching crisis, in which, while themselves constrained to continue at the hoe, the prædial apprentices are destined to witness the entire emancipation of their non-prædial brethren.

"You will be pleased, therefore, his Excellency desires, to take cautious but at the same time effectual measures for clearly explaining to the apprenticed labourers within your jurisdiction their right of appeal to you from the decision of the registrar, in cases where they may consider themselves thereby aggrieved; and to make the necessary intimation to the secretary of the island for the due alteration of the registry, whenever you may have occasion to 'decide that an apprenticed labourer ought to belong to any other class than the one in which he or she shall have been registered.'"

20 Dec. 1837.

No. 2.

By the accompanying return it will be found that, between the date of the above-mentioned circular letter and the 30th ultimo, 106 male and 165 female apprenticed labourers have been transferred, under the Abolition Act of this island, from the prædial to the non-prædial class.

I have, &c.

(signed) *E. J. Murray M'Gregor*, Governor.

Enclosure 1, in No. 95.

BARBADOS.

BARBADOS.—E. J. MURRAY M'GREGOR, Governor.

By his Excellency Major-general Sir *Evan John Murray M'Gregor*, Baronet, Companion of the most honourable Military Order of the Bath, Knight Commander of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order, Governor and Commander-in-chief in and over the Islands of *Barbados, Saint Vincent, Grenada, Tobago, &c. &c. &c.*

Encl. 1, in No. 95

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS by a royal proclamation, bearing date the 4th day of September 1833, his late Majesty was most graciously pleased to direct that, "subject to apprenticeship, all persons who on the 1st day of August 1834 shall be holden in slavery within any of the British colonies, will upon and from that day be absolutely and for ever manumitted and set free; and that all persons who shall then be duly registered as slaves in such respective colonies, and actually within the same, and of the full age of six years and upwards, will, by force and virtue of an Act of the Imperial Parliament, become apprenticed labourers in the services of the persons previously entitled to their services as slaves, and that the apprenticeship of such labourers will terminate on the 1st day of August 1840, or on the 1st day of August 1838, according to the nature and description of employment in which such labourers shall be severally engaged, as in the said Act set forth; and that such apprenticed labourers will, during such their apprenticeships, be bound by law to labour in the service of their respective employers, on such terms and conditions, and for such limited period of time as by the said Act of Parliament, or as by any Acts hereafter to be made and passed in such colonies respectively," are or shall be prescribed on that behalf:

And whereas, by Acts in conformity with the said royal proclamation subsequently made and passed in this island, it has been enacted, that no person who by virtue thereof shall become a prædial apprenticed labourer, whether attached or not to the soil, shall continue in such apprenticeship beyond the 1st day of August 1840; and that no person who by virtue thereof shall become a non-prædial apprenticed labourer shall continue in such apprenticeship beyond the 1st day of August 1838; and that lists or schedules, distinguishing, in reference to each apprenticed labourer, to which of the said classes such apprenticed labourers belong, shall be returned by or for every employer of apprenticed labourers to the registrar of slaves; and that during the continuance of the aforesaid apprenticeship such slave registry shall be deposited in the secretary's office of this island; and that it shall and may be lawful for any apprenticed labourer to appeal from any such decision of the registrar to the special justice of the peace of the district in which such apprenticed labourer shall reside, who is authorized to hear and determine any such appeal, and to summon all necessary parties and witnesses before him for that purpose; and in case such special justice shall decide that such apprenticed labourer shall belong to any other class than the one in which he or she shall have been registered, it shall be lawful for the secretary of the island and he is required to make such alteration in the said registry as shall correspond with the decision of such special justice:

Now, therefore, the indefinite amount of daily service exacted under the aforesaid Acts from the non-prædial class having been thereby imposed as an equivalent for the shorter term of their apprenticeship, in contradistinction to that of the prædial apprentices, who are not bound or liable to perform any labour for more than 45 hours in the whole in any one week, it has appeared to me indispensable to place beyond doubt, that opportunities will have been offered on or before the 1st day of August 1838, to any individuals deeming themselves properly belonging to the said non-prædial class, to substantiate their claims to the attainment of freedom at that period.

And whereas, in consequence of instructions issued to the special justices of the peace, those magistrates are and have been for some time past occupied in rectifying, where requisite, the classification of such apprentices; and it being important, both to the employer and labourer in this dense population, that whatever doubts in this respect may happen to exist should be settled without unnecessary delay, as well as without undue precipitation:

Now, therefore, in order the better to facilitate the prosecution of the inquiries already in progress, and to the end that any apprenticed labourers wishing to apply for an alteration of their registered class, and whose cases have not been yet investigated, may be enabled to appeal, as herein set forth, in the manner prescribed by law, I do by this my proclamation, by and with the advice of Her Majesty's Council, declare that all persons concerned are required to aid and assist the special justices in the premises; and the said special justices are hereby further directed to make suitable arrangements with the parties interested, for ascertaining and successively determining on or before the 1st day of March next any claim of this description remaining unadjusted in their respective districts at the date hereof.

Given under my hand and seal this 21st day of December 183 and in the first year of Her Majesty's reign.

God save the Queen.

By his Excellency's command,
(signed) *E. H. Senhouse*, Acts Coll Secy.

BARBADOS.

Enclosure 2, in No. 95.

Barbados, 20 Dec. 1837.

Encl. 2, in No. 95.

GENERAL RETURN of APPEALS of Apprenticed Labourers transferred from the Prædial to the Non-prædial Class, up to the 30th of November 1837.

DISTRICTS.	NUMBER ADMITTED.			NUMBER REJECTED.			Number to be decided.	Total Number of Appeals since 4th July 1837.
	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.		
A. - -	8	1	9	1	-	1	-	10
B. - -	18	26	44	13	3	16	-	60
C. - -	15	19	34	13	18	31	6	71
D. - -	49	86	135	7	17	24	-	159
E. - -	14	29	43	18	16	34	-	77
F. - -	2	4	6	1	2	3	-	9
	106	165	271	53	56	109	6	386

N. B.—Number of male apprenticed labourers - - - 30,736
 Number of female - ditto - - - 35,801

TOTAL apprenticed population - - - 66,537

(signed) *E. J. Murray M'Gregor*, Governor.

— No. 96.—

(No. 81.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor
 Sir *E. J. M. M'Gregor*, Bart.

No. 96.

Sir,

Downing-street, 14 February 1838.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your despatch, No. 291, of the 30th of December, enclosing the copy of a proclamation, which, with the advice of the board of council, you had issued in Barbados, in connexion with other measures for securing a correct classification of the apprenticed population.

I have much satisfaction in expressing to you my approval of the decisive measures which you have taken to reduce an evil apparently of great magnitude, and of a very pressing nature. Your proceedings are in precise conformity with those which have recently been taken by Her Majesty in Council in reference to Mauritius and to the other colonies which are subject to the legislative authority of the Crown.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

MISCELLANEOUS.

—No. 97.—

(General.—No. 5.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor
Sir *E. J. M. M'Gregor*, Bart.

Sir,

Downing-street, 15 June 1837.

No. 97.

Vide Papers relative to the Abolition of Slavery, 1837, Part 4 (1), p. 20.

Ditto.

Ditto.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you for your information the enclosed copy of a letter, which has been addressed to my Under-Secretary, by the direction of the committee of the Prison Discipline Society in this country, relative to the state of the gaols and of prison discipline in the colonies: and also a copy of the rules established in the Bahamas for the management of the gaols there, which the committee allude to; and I have to request that you will transmit to me at your earliest convenience the answers to the inquiries contained in the enlarged return herewith enclosed, and that you will endeavour to give effect to the suggestions of the committee, as far as local circumstances will admit, in the different colonies under your government.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

—No. 98.—

(General.—No. 163.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *E. J. M. M'Gregor*, Bart., to
Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Government House, Barbados, 20 July 1837.

No. 98.

IN acknowledgment of your Lordship's despatch of the 15th ultimo, marked "General, No. 5," I beg leave to report, that the execution of the commands therein contained will be proceeded on, as soon as the enlarged return of inquiries relative to the state of the gaols and of prison discipline in the colonies, therein alluded to, shall be received.

I have, &c,

(signed) *E. J. Murray M'Gregor*, Governor.

—No. 99.—

(No. 8.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor
Sir *E. J. M. M'Gregor*, Bart.

Sir,

Downing-street, 14 August 1837.

No. 99.

Similar Instruction addressed to the Governor of Jamaica: Vide Papers relative to the Abolition of Slavery, 1838, Part 5 (1), p. 30.

I ENCLOSE an additional instruction, under Her Majesty's sign manual, authorizing you to admit appeals to Her Majesty in Council in cases in which the right of any person employed as an apprenticed labourer to be discharged from that employment may be a question. The enclosed copies of a correspondence in which I have been engaged with Sir Lionel Smith will explain the motives by which this measure has been suggested. There did not appear to me any sufficient reason why the power granted in this respect to that officer should not be committed to the Governor-general of the Windward Islands.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

BARBADOS.

— No. 100. —

(General.—No. 203.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *E. J. M. M'Gregor*, Bart.,
to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 100.

My Lord,

Government House, Barbados, 20 September 1837.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving, with your Lordship's despatch of the 14th ultimo, "General, No. 8," and will duly observe an additional instruction, under Her Majesty's sign manual, authorizing me to admit appeals to Her Majesty in Council in cases in which the right of any person employed as an apprenticed labourer to be discharged from that employment shall be in question.

I have, &c.

(signed) *E. J. Murray M'Gregor*, Governor.

— No. 101. —

(No. 185.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *E. J. M. M'Gregor*, Bart.,
to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 101.

My Lord,

Government House, Barbados, 23 August 1837.

Nos. 1, 2 and 3,
2 & 22 Aug. 1837.

I HAVE the honour of submitting to your Lordship copies of my address to the legislative Houses of this colony, and of the respective answers of the Council and Assembly, on the occasion of my meeting them after the late election.

I have, &c.

(signed) *E. J. Murray M'Gregor*, Governor.

Enclosure 1, in No. 101.

Encl. 1, in No. 101.

Mr. President, My Lord Bishop and Gentlemen of the Council,
Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the Assembly,

You cannot fail deeply to participate in the general emotion pervading the British empire on the demise of his late most Excellent Majesty King William the Fourth; and no subjects of the Crown, I am well aware, will more cordially concur in humbly tendering to our most Gracious Queen, Victoria the First, the homage of heartfelt condolence on the decease of the departed Monarch, and of ardent congratulation on Her most Sacred Majesty's accession to the throne of her royal ancestors; as well as in evincing that sympathy which, being eminently due to the virtues of the widowed Consort of our late beneficent and revered Sovereign, constitutes the most appropriate tribute of affectionate respect that can be rendered by a grateful people to the memory of a patriot King.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly,

On the present occasion I will not further trespass on your indulgence than by observing, that the wise liberality of the late Assembly encourages me confidently to believe, in as far as financial considerations will with safety and propriety permit, that the cost of continuing, by prudent and salutary measures, to adapt the public establishment of the country to the various changes progressively affecting it, will be readily sustained on behalf of your constituents by your honourable House.

Mr. President, My Lord Bishop and Gentlemen of the Council,

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly,

After recently experiencing the direful effects of fire and tempest, your honourable Board and House will permit me to recommend the adoption of early precautions for the more adequate protection of the public on the possible recurrence of similar calamities, and at the same time to solicit your favourable consideration of the spirited and useful services, not only of the officers and troops of the line, whom his Excellency the Lieutenant-general commanding the forces ordered in each instance to assist the civil power, and of the officers and men of the militia, but also of many gentlemen, and other persons who voluntarily and zealously exerted themselves in contributing to the preservation of life and property.

Notwithstanding these painful scenes, it is consolatory to be enabled to advert to the almost unexampled agricultural prosperity of the island, to its exemption, under Divine Providence, from the intrusion of infectious disease, to the diminution of crime, and to the enjoyment of internal peace; and I derive peculiar gratification from this opportunity of thankfully acknowledging the courteous disposition which, ever since my arrival in Barbados, has been considerately manifested towards me in our official intercourse by the Council and Assembly.

The good understanding animating the legislature is for the most part diffused throughout other portions of the community; and, on the authority of the special magistrates, already generally

generally obtains, and is happily increasing, I am sure, between employers and the apprenticed population.

Your honourable Board and House have lately declared, "that the question of emancipation being no longer a debatable point," you "have cheerfully applied" yourselves, "in good faith, to the consummation of this great national experiment, in the success of which you are so deeply interested." Satisfaction has been expressed, by the Right honourable the Colonial Minister, at the coincidence of opinion subsisting between the Royal Government and local authorities on the matters lately forming the subject of communication, particularly at the manner in which your attention has been directed to the important object of the education of the peasantry; and the justices especially appointed by the Crown for their superintendence have unanimously affirmed, that, "Although they do not doubt that a state of entire freedom would have been more beneficial to the negro than a perpetuation of slavery until 1840; under present circumstances they consider the apprenticeship system highly advantageous, from which the best results may reasonably be expected, and infinitely to be preferred to a continued state of slavery."

An Act too has been passed, "for repealing so much of the Colonial Act for the Abolition of Slavery as authorizes the Apprenticeship of the Children of Apprenticed Labourers;" and remarking that "the colonial legislature have judged it expedient to repeal this part of the Abolition Act, with the expectation that by so doing the fears of the parents will be quieted as to the future freedom of their offspring, and that they will be induced to allow them to work when they can no longer be employed as apprentices." Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies announces that the Queen in Council will be advised to confirm this law.

Under these circumstances, as considerable numbers of the apprentices are about to be exonerated in the ensuing year from their existing obligations, while the greater mass have arrived midway between the termination of their original condition, and the attainment of that complete liberty which rapidly draws near, every inducement ought to incite them to prove worthy, by their intermediate conduct, of the benefits they have already received, and of the still higher privileges eventually to be conferred on them.

It is indeed the interest, as it fortunately seems to be the growing inclination of all parties, during the remaining brief tenure of apprenticeship, to accommodate themselves to its fleeting exigencies in a spirit of mutual forbearance. I implicitly rely therefore on the countenance of the legislative Houses, of the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop and clergy, of the special justices, and of the influential inhabitants, in earnestly inculcating upon proprietors, managers and labourers the assiduous cultivation of this conciliating principle, in order, by allaying and subduing any partial asperities incidental to the present ephemeral and evanescent stage of its political relations, ultimately to establish the future tranquillity of this valuable colony on the firm basis of that general harmony and union, in the absence of which, even in the approaching state of unrestricted freedom, no class of society can hope to prosper.

In taking leave of your honourable Board and House, I am happy in being empowered to add, that the Act authorizing the hire of a house for the meeting of the legislature and the holding of the courts is to receive the royal sanction, and that the approbation of Her Majesty's Government has been signified at the testimony thereby afforded "to the public spirit of the Council and Assembly, in providing proper accommodation for their public institutions, at the expense of their own convenience."

Government House, Barbados,
2 August 1837.

(signed) *E. J. Murray McGregor,*
Governor.

Enclosure 2, in No. 101.

May it please your Excellency,

WE very sincerely concur with your Excellency in your expressions of heartfelt condolence on the demise of our late lamented Sovereign, and of ardent congratulation on the accession of Her present Majesty to the throne of her ancestors. We sympathize with the royal widow in the deep affliction with which it hath pleased the Almighty to visit her; and we contemplate with feelings of the deepest respect the affectionate and unwearied attention with which she watched over the bed of the dying Sovereign. Encl. 2, in No. 101.

It will ever be to us a source of the highest satisfaction, as it is an act of our bounden duty, to co-operate with the other branch of the legislature to the utmost extent of the financial resources of the country in all measures which shall be calculated to advance its true interests, and we shall be ready to unite with that branch in adapting, whenever it shall be found necessary, on sound and safe principles the public institutions of the land to the civil changes which await its internal polity.

We earnestly respond to the just encomiums which your Excellency has been pleased to pass on the exertions of the military, of the officers and men of the militia, and of other numerous individuals, among whom we would be permitted to specify the master and crew of Her Majesty's packet "Spey," on the late disastrous occasions of fire and tempest, and we shall most cheerfully devote our attention to any suggestions which may be offered for the more adequate protection of the persons and property of the public on the possible recurrence of similar calamities.

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We feel with your Excellency that amid these severe trials there is great, and, we trust, under God, increasing cause for rejoicing in the prosperous and peaceful state of the country, in the diminution of public crime, and in the absence of all infectious disease, and as another instance of merciful interposition in our behalf, in the providential extinction of the late fire before the violence of the succeeding gale had set in.

We respectfully assure your Excellency, that the harmony which at present so happily exists between the executive and the two other branches of the legislature is little likely to be disturbed whilst your Excellency continues to manifest so much urbanity in your personal intercourse, and so much judgment, promptness and consideration in all your public proceedings. That the community at large should share in the same courteous disposition towards your Excellency, which so generally pervades the members of the two legislative branches, is a result which might indeed have been anticipated, but which we are happy in having thus confirmed by your Excellency's own declaration. We are much gratified by the further assurance given by your Excellency, on the authority of the special magistrates, that a good understanding already generally obtains, and is increasing, between employers and the apprenticed population.

We are thankful for the manner in which Her Majesty's Government has been pleased to speak of the steps already taken by the legislature of this island towards the consummation of the great measure of emancipation.

We are duly sensible of the paramount importance of securing for the rising generation the benefit of a religious and suitable education.

It is our most earnest wish and prayer that the intermediate state of apprenticeship may realize the wise and benevolent intentions of the Imperial Legislature, and afford to the apprentices themselves, and to every freed child, an opportunity eagerly embraced by them for moral and civil preparation.

We trust that neither the legislature nor the clergy, nor any other official or influential body of men, will be found wanting at this momentous period in their endeavours to prevent or allay amongst all classes of our people whatever may be destructive of public peace, or may retard the full enjoyment of those blessings, which have ever been attendant, under God's good providence, on the maintenance of religion, on the establishment of a well-understood and duly-balanced freedom, and on the extension of general knowledge and civilization.

We are happy in learning from your Excellency that the late Act, authorizing the hire of a house for the meeting of the legislature and the holding of the courts, is to receive the royal sanction, and we cannot but hope that through the arrangement thus secured, many essential improvements, hitherto unavoidably protracted, may speedily be introduced both into the fabric and internal discipline of the public gaol.

We take leave of your Excellency with the renewal of our most respectful consideration.

(signed)	<i>John A. Beckles.</i>	<i>J. H. Gittens.</i>
	<i>W. H. Barbados.</i>	<i>Philip L. Hinds.</i>
	<i>Jno. Brathwaite.</i>	<i>J. H. Alleyne.</i>
	<i>R. A. Alleyne.</i>	<i>J. B. Nurse.</i>

Council Chamber, 22 August 1837.

Enclosure 3, in No. 101.

The Speaker and the House of Assembly to his Excellency Sir *Evan John Murray M'Gregor*,
Baronet, Governor, &c. &c. &c.

Encl. 3, in No. 101. • May it please your Excellency,

THE House of Assembly cannot fail deeply to participate in the general emotion pervading the British empire on the demise of his late most Excellent Majesty King William the Fourth; and no subjects of the Crown, as you are, sir, well aware, more cordially concur in humbly tendering to our most Gracious Queen Victoria the homage of heartfelt condolence on the decease of the departed Monarch, and of ardent congratulation on Her most Sacred Majesty's accession to the throne of her royal ancestors; as well as in evincing that sympathy which, being eminently due to the widowed Consort of our late beneficent and revered Sovereign, "constitutes the most appropriate tribute of affectionate respect," as your Excellency most justly observes, "that can be rendered by a grateful people to the memory of a patriot King."

Animated by an anxious desire to cherish the institutions of the colony, the House of Assembly will, in its financial operations, pursue that policy which your Excellency is pleased to characterize as "wisely liberal," and as far as it can, with safety and propriety, cheerfully make provision for those expenses which must necessarily be incurred in the support of the public establishments of the island, endeavouring by prudent and salutary measures to adapt them to the various changes progressively affecting society.

With reference to the dreadful calamity occasioned by fire to which the town has been recently subjected, and to which your Excellency adverts, the House of Assembly will take early measures for the more adequate protection of the public, on the possible recurrence of such an event; and the House of Assembly begs to assure your Excellency that it highly appreciates the humane and considerate conduct of the gallant Lieutenant-general commanding the forces, in aiding the civil power with that spirited and useful assistance which was so ably afforded by the officers and troops of the line, of whose noble exertions

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tions in checking the ravages of the fire, no less than in preserving the life and property of individuals during the tempest which so suddenly followed, the House of Assembly will not fail to make grateful and honourable acknowledgments. To "those gentlemen and others" who by similar exertions on the same occasion won for themselves the gratitude of their fellow-citizens, and the approbation of your Excellency, the House of Assembly awards also that meed of approval to which their meritorious conduct justly entitles them.

Notwithstanding these painful scenes, in which you yourself, sir, took so active and distinguished a part, and to which you so feelingly allude, the House of Assembly is humbly grateful to Divine Providence for the manifold blessings which, under the enlightened administration of your Excellency, the country yet enjoys; and the House of Assembly begs to assure your Excellency, that the courtesy of which you are pleased to make mention is no more than a just tribute of respect due to your Excellency for the considerate attention and candour which you have on all occasions manifested in your intercourse with the other branches of the legislature.

That the councils of the legislature may continue to be conducted in the same spirit of concord by which they are at present directed is the earnest desire of the House of Assembly; and that it may diffuse its influence throughout all classes of society is to be no less earnestly desired.

The abolition of slavery being a law of the land, patriotism, loyalty and interest equally require that this law should be religiously observed; and the Right honourable the Colonial Minister, in expressing satisfaction at the coincidence of opinion between the royal government and the local authorities on matters lately forming the subject of communication, has thus virtually admitted his disbelief of the injurious imputation which had been lately attempted to be cast on the character of this community.

The House of Assembly is very much gratified to find that the Queen in Council will be advised to confirm the Act repealing the 38th clause of the Abolition Act.

That the apprentices who are about to be exonerated from their existing obligations in the coming year, as well as those who will with equal certainty receive the same boon at a period a little more protracted, should so conduct themselves as to prove worthy of the benefits they have already received, and of the still higher privileges eventually to be conferred on them, the House of Assembly perfectly coincides in opinion with your Excellency.

The ephemeral and evanescent probationary stage of the apprenticeship system drawing rapidly to a close, it becomes equally the duty and the interest of employers and apprentices to comport themselves, the former with generous liberality, and the latter with cheerfulness and alacrity, in the performance of their accustomed avocations, thus establishing that mutual confidence and good-will towards each other which is essential to the prospects of both parties.

The House of Assembly thanks your Excellency for the intelligence that the Act authorizing the hire of a house for the meeting of the legislature and the holding of the courts is to receive the royal sanction, and they trust that the knowledge of the inconveniences to which both branches of the legislature have been put in providing proper accommodation for the public institutions, will have its proper weight in inducing Her Majesty's Ministers to restore that portion of the island revenue which was expressly granted to the Crown, and remains now by a local Act solely applicable to the support of the institutions of this colony.

By order of the House,

House of Assembly, 22 Aug. 1837.

(signed) *Samuel Hinds*, Speaker.

(True copies, &c.)

E. J. M. M'Gregor, Governor.

— No. 102. —

(No. 64.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor
Sir *E. J. M. M'Gregor*, Bart.

Sir,

Downing-street, 14 October 1837.

No. 102.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your despatch, No. 185, of the 23d August last, and I have perused with much gratification the copies which you have therein transmitted of your address to the legislature of Barbados at the commencement of the session on the 2d of August, and of the respective answers returned by the Council and Assembly.

I have, &c
(signed) *Glenelg*.

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— No. 103. —

(No. 213.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *E. J. M. M'Gregor*, Bart.,
to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 103.

My Lord, Government House, Barbados, 24 September 1837.

*Vide Papers relative
to the Abolition of
Slavery, 1837,
Part 4 (1), p. 416.*

I HAVE the honour to report that the observations contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 15th of August, No. 52, relative to the separation of free children of apprentices from their mothers, have been circulated for the information and guidance of Her Majesty's special justices within this colony.

I have, &c.

(signed) *E. J. Murray M'Gregor*, Governor.

— No. 104. —

(No. 236.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *E. J. M. M'Gregor*, Bart.,
to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 104.

My Lord, Government House, Barbados, 23 October 1837.

*Vide Papers relative
to the Abolition of
Slavery, 1838,
Part 5 (1), p. 2.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your Lordship's circular despatch, received from Captain Pringle, of the 12th of September last; and, in obedience to Her Majesty's commands, I beg leave to assure your Lordship that all the support and assistance in my power will be afforded to that gentleman in the performance of the duty with which he is intrusted, of inquiring into the state of the prisons and workhouses in the West India colonies.

I have, &c.

(signed) *E. J. Murray M'Gregor*, Governor.

— No. 105. —

(No. 289.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *E. J. M. M'Gregor*, Bart.,
to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 105.

My Lord, Government House, Barbados, 21 December 1837.

Nos. 1 and 2,
11 & 14 Dec. 1837.

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Lordship the charge of the chief justice, and reply of the grand inquest, at the sessions lately held in Bridgetown.

The prisoners were disposed of as follows :—

	Discharged for want of prosecution	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
	Indictment ignored	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
	Remanded	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
	Acquitted	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
A. An old offender.	A.—Sentenced to two years' imprisonment, with hard labour	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
B. A boy.	B.—Sentenced to one year's imprisonment, with hard labour, and to be twice publicly flogged with rods, 12 stripes each time	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	Sentenced to one year's imprisonment, with hard labour, and to be once publicly flogged, 21 stripes	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
C. Punishment too complicated.	C.—Sentenced to six months' imprisonment, with hard labour, one in solitary confinement, and to be once publicly flogged, 21 stripes	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	Sentenced to one year's imprisonment, with hard labour	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
	Sentenced to one year's imprisonment, and fined 5 <i>l.</i> each	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
	Sentenced to one year's imprisonment	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
	Sentenced to six months' imprisonment, and to keep the peace for six months	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	Sentenced to six months' imprisonment, with hard labour	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
D. Misled by his employer.	D.—Sentenced to three months' imprisonment, with hard labour	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
E. Two months remitted in one case, the offence being less serious than that of one of the prisoners sentenced to one month's confinement.	E.—Sentenced to three months' imprisonment	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
F. One remitted; delicate, and not suited to hard labour.	Sentenced to one month's imprisonment	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
F. Ditto.								

FEMALE PRISONERS.

F.—Sentenced to one year's imprisonment, with hard labour	-	-	2
F.—Sentenced to three months' imprisonment, with hard labour	-	-	2

TOTAL - - - 48

Stripes have been remitted in three instances; two months' confinement has been struck off from a sentence of three in a case of assault; and that of one prisoner has been entirely remitted, as he is an apprenticed labourer, and became involved in a riot under the influence of his employer, who remains imprisoned for the same offence. Two female prisoners have likewise been relieved from the performance of hard labour, for 12 months in one case, and in the other for three.

Of two private soldiers, reported in my letter of the 24th of June last, No. 146, as accused of murder, one has been remanded, the other having escaped, and being supposed still in the island. No prisoners have been condemned to transportation; but, adverting to the late instructions prohibiting the banishment of convicts from these colonies, may I request to be informed whether any exception may be permitted where the offenders are not of African descent?

Upon the difference of sentiment between the chief justice and the grand inquest, in regard to the decrease of crime, I beg leave, with great submission, to remark that the exception respectfully urged by the jury to his honour's charge under that head does not appear warranted by the actual circumstances of the case. The comparatively inconsiderable offences dealt with by the general and special magistracy existed formerly no less than now; and the chief justice would therefore seem to be borne out in deeming the present state of the calendar, as contrasted with that exhibited at the sessions in June and December last, a fit subject of congratulation to the country.

I have great pleasure in assuring your Lordship of the continued humane and liberal disposition manifested by the local authorities in favour of the amelioration of prison discipline.

I have, &c.

(signed) *E. J. Murray M'Gregor*, Governor.

Enclosure 1, in No. 105.

Mr. Foreman, and Gentlemen of the Grand Jury,

AT an early period of my life, I was forcibly impressed with the inconsistency of requiring gentlemen, who were not prepared by a legal education, to preside at our courts of grand sessions, merely because they hold official situations in the island; and as the lapse of time has tended to strengthen that impression, you will readily believe that it is with reluctance I occupy this seat.

Encl. 1, in No. 105.

I entertain much diffidence as to my power of being useful, and I feel that the responsibilities under which I am placed are great; but supported by the purity of my intentions, and the knowledge that many of my predecessors, under like disadvantages, have successfully discharged their duties to the satisfaction of the country, I am encouraged to hope for a similar result, more especially as I shall have the able assistance of Her Majesty's Solicitor-general, a gentleman whose legal acquirements are justly appreciated by his countrymen.

It is with heartfelt gratification that I draw your attention to the state of the calendar for the present session compared with those of December and June last; it shows a gradual diminution of crime, the number of offences on that of December being 84, and on that of June 53, while the one before the court contains only 32 cases. Nor is there less cause for congratulation when the nature of the offences on the preceding calendar is compared with that of those on the present, it being free from the more heinous crimes which the former unhappily exhibited. This decrease of crime in so short a period, and in a population so dense as ours, I attribute chiefly to the great improvements which have been made during that time in our prison discipline; and the community is much indebted to those gentlemen by whose voluntary exertions and constant attention these salutary amendments have been effected. It is part of your duty, gentlemen, to visit and inspect the gaol, and I confidently anticipate from you a most satisfactory report; those alterations which were planned some months ago are now nearly completed; they were absolutely necessary to effect a due classification and enforce a proper behaviour among those confined within its walls, and will, I trust, be found to supply nearly all that was wanting to ensure the successful working of a complete system of improved prison discipline.

To promote these desirable objects, it was necessary that the courts, and all other public meetings, should cease to be held within the walls of the prison; and when their importance is considered, the gentlemen of the court and juries will, I am persuaded, agree with me that they are sufficient to reconcile us to any inconveniences we may suffer from the present temporary court-house, until the finances of the island will enable us to erect a more suitable building.

With feelings of no less exultation do I congratulate you on the present condition of the island. Notwithstanding the elements of wind and fire have this year occasioned loss to many individuals, yet we have great cause to be thankful to the Almighty for his superintending Providence; we have the gratification to witness our lands promising a plentiful return, and the majority of our labourers behaving to our reasonable expectations.

Our esteemed Governor evinces an anxious desire to promote the best interests of the island; and our active and zealous diocesan and his clergy exert their united energies in dispensing the benefits of religious instruction to all classes. The chief drawback to our

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future prospects is the condition of the free children of apprenticed labourers, who are not in training to agricultural pursuits, but are rather permitted by their parents to loiter about the different negro-yards in a state of idleness. I am free to confess that no blame can be attached to the proprietors, a great part of whom are willing to employ for adequate wages, or to clothe and feed the whole of these children, provided their mothers showed a disposition to instil into their minds habits of industry; but so strong is their prejudice against bringing them up to field labour, that they will not allow their children to assist them even in their own gardens, their desire being manifest, where they permit them to be employed, to make them domestics or mechanics.

This important question is, however, under the consideration of the legislature, who will, I doubt not, adopt such measures as will tend to remove these impressions, so injurious to our young peasantry, and by insuring to all the full reward of their labour, promote such a spirit of contentment and industry as cannot fail to be equally beneficial to master and servant. Gentlemen, I shall be at my post each morning by 10 o'clock, at which hour I expect you also will be present. It is a punctual attendance alone that can promote the business of the sessions, and by the due observance of it, I trust that we shall not fail to bring our labours to a satisfactory conclusion.

11 December 1837.

(signed)

J. B. Nurse, Chief Justice.

Enclosure 2, in No. 105.

Encl. 2, in No. 105.

May it please your Honour,

THE grand inquest, in returning thanks to your honour for the very interesting address which your honour was pleased to deliver at the commencement of this sessions, beg leave to felicitate the court on his Excellency's selection of a gentleman of your honour's amiability and integrity of character to preside in the judicial chair. They coincide with your honour's allusions to the legal deficiencies under which (notwithstanding) your honour's predecessors have so faithfully discharged the duties of chief justice, and, with confidence in your own rectitude of principle, feel assured that your honour's present administration of the laws has been conducted with credit to yourself and benefit to the country at large.

The grand inquest hail with pleasure any authentic proof of the diminution of crime in the extensive population of this island; but while they recognize, in the language of congratulation, a calendar on the decrease, both in the number as well as in the degree of offences, they regret that the time has not yet arrived when that document can be quoted as a statistical record of the morality of the lower classes. In their present dependent position, it is in many cases a matter of absolute necessity to subject a numerous train of crimes either to direct compromise or at the least to a scrutiny less rigid than that which the dignity of a criminal court would impose. At the same time the grand inquest are ready to admit, that this absence of moral restraint is chiefly to be attributed to that degradation of mind consequent on the state of thralldom from which they have so lately emerged.

In obedience to your honour's injunction, the grand inquest have visited the gaol, and are happy in being enabled to confirm your honour's anticipations of a favourable report. The alterations are judicious, and the classification of the prisoners is likely to promote the object which the legislature appear to have had so much at heart, namely, an improved state of prison discipline. In bearing testimony, however, to the admirable character of these arrangements, the grand inquest cannot forbear to allude, in the strongest terms of approbation, to the zealous activity of the respectable provost-marshall and his deputies, whose conduct on this occasion seems to merit something more substantial than a passing acknowledgment of their services. The advantages to be derived from such improvements are more than sufficient to reconcile your jurors to the temporary inconveniences of the present building, and they will greet with satisfaction that era of future prosperity which will empower their trusty representatives to consult their comfort, by the erection of a building more suitable to the purposes of legislation and judicature.

In the chastened spirit of humiliation, the grand inquest humbly bow to the heavy dispensations with which it has pleased Almighty God to visit the island during the late inclement season. They would devoutly acknowledge his protecting influence in the devastations of the storm, the fire and the earthquake, and look forward with the same honest exultation as your honour to the cheering promise of an abundant harvest, and the progressive improvement of the labouring population.

The grand inquest echo, with much satisfaction, the respectful compliment which your honour has paid to our esteemed Governor. They claim to be admitted among the foremost rank of those who appreciate the zeal, the learning and the piety of the Lord Bishop, and sincerely hope that his faithful clergy may, in the dispensing of religious instruction to all classes, meet with the success which their efforts deserve.

The grand inquest, composed as it is of individuals interested in the successful working of free labour, approach the next portion of your honour's address with some hesitation. On this important topic their expressions, however guarded, may be liable to misinterpretation, and their views censured as arbitrary and confined. But they rejoice to hear from your honour, as a member of the higher branch of the legislature, that a Bill is in contemplation, which will have for its object the removal of those prejudices which unfortunately still exist in the minds of the parents of the youthful peasantry; and they look with confident anticipation to the adoption of such measures as shall be calculated to remove impressions injurious alike to agricultural prosperity and the joint interests of master and servant.

From

From a subject of such grave import, the grand inquest turn with pleasure to perform their last and most agreeable duty. They desire gratefully to acknowledge the legal assistance which has been so courteously afforded them by Her Majesty's Solicitor-general, by which their investigations have been rendered less fatiguing, and an early completion of business fully ensured. While, therefore, they tender through your honour their tribute of thanks to that gentleman, they venture to hope that their own duties have been discharged to the satisfaction of your honour and the court in general.

14 December 1837.

Robert Reece, Foreman.

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—No. 106.—

(No. 80.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir
E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart.

Sir,

Downing-street, 13 February 1838.

No. 106.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your despatch, No. 289, of the 21st of December, containing the "charge" of the chief justice and reply of the grand jury at the court of grand sessions, held at Bridgetown in December last.

I am happy to believe that your opinion, and that of the chief justice, as to the decrease of crime in Barbados rests upon sure grounds, notwithstanding the dissent of the grand jury from the inferences drawn by the judge from the state of the calendar. The disinclination to agricultural labour, urged to such an extent as to induce the apprenticed labourers to reject the assistance of their own children even in the cultivation of their own gardens, affords as impressive an illustration as it is possible to give of the injurious effects of slavery. The association in the minds of the emancipated negroes of degradation with agriculture is too natural to excite any surprise; but it is one of those accidental prejudices which may reasonably be expected to yield to the influence of increasing knowledge and good example, if not to the pressure of want. I cannot doubt that your attention will have been directed to the adoption of any methods by which this erroneous impression may be gradually removed.

With regard to the question of transportation, I am not prepared to say that no exception can ever be allowed to the general rule, but, adverting to the policy of Her Majesty's Government and of Parliament on the subject, such an exception could only be justified by very extraordinary circumstances.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

—No. 107.—

(No. 17.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *E. J. M. M'Gregor*, Bart., to
Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Government House, Barbados, 29 January 1838.

No. 107.

IN obedience to the commands contained in your Lordship's circular despatch of the 1st of December last, I have the honour to enclose a Return, specifying the number of all the children apprenticed in Barbados, under the provision of the Abolition Law, as required by a Resolution of the House of Commons of the 28th of November 1837.

Return.

I have, &c.

(signed) *E. J. M. M'Gregor*, Governor.

PAPERS RELATIVE TO THE ABOLITION OF

Enclosure in No. 107.

RETURN of CHILDREN APPRENTICED in Barbados, under the ABOLITION ACT, from the 1st of August 1834 to the March 1837, at which Date the 38th Clause was repealed by an Act of the Legislature of Barbados, approved by Her Majesty in Council, on the 12th of July 1837.

Districts.	No. of Children.		Employers.	To whom apprenticed.	Names of Apprentices.	REMARKS.
	Males.	Females.				
A. rural.	-	-	Mrs. Sarah Tull	Mrs. Sarah Tull	Ellen - -	{ - - Cancelled at the request of the child's mother, "Kitty," and with the consent of Mrs. Tull, on the 17th of July 1837.
A. town	-	1				
B. rural.	-	-				
C. "	-	-				
D. "	-	-				
E. "	-	-				{ - - It appears the mother of this child died when it was only two years old, and the father suffered it to be in want of the common necessities of life; the child is now alive and well, and living on Golden Ride estate; and Mr. Cox waited on the special magistrate to state, that nothing but humanity induced him to take this child, and that if his Excellency the Governor would be pleased to make any other arrangements for its support and protection, except placing him with an unfeeling and cruel father, he, Mr. Cox, would readily consent to cancel the indenture.
F. "	-	-				
G. "	1	-	Mr. W. T. Cox	Mr. W. T. Cox	Wm. Thomas	

(signed) E. J. Murray M'Gregor, Governor.

— No. 108. —

(No. 13.)
COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord Glenelg to Governor Sir
E. J. M. M'Gregor, Bart.

Nc. 108.
N.B. Similar Despatches addressed to the Lieut.-governor of Trinidad.
Ditto - St. Lucia.

Sir,
ON receiving the monthly returns of punishments inflicted by order of the special magistrates in the West Indies, I observe with regret, that in some of the colonies under your government the average amount of corporal punishment has not been reduced. It has been the anxious hope of Her Majesty's Government, that under the judicious administration of the Apprenticeship Law, this mode of punishment would be gradually disused, and that it would become needless to resort to it as a means of enforcing the duties attached to that condition. In some of the colonies this hope has been already fulfilled; in others it seems likely to be fulfilled at an early period; there are, however, others which do not at present afford this prospect.

I am not unaware of the many difficulties with which the special magistrates have to contend in endeavouring to bring about this object; nor would I hastily infer that their best endeavours have not been used for its attainment, because they have hitherto proved unsuccessful. But upon comparing the several returns from all the West Indian colonies, I find a difference in this respect for which I cannot readily account, and so remarkable that I think it necessary to call your attention particularly to the subject.

By the enclosed table you will perceive, that in Jamaica, Barbados, British Guiana and Grenada, and in all the Leeward Islands, with the exception of Dominica, the average number of floggings inflicted during the month has been very greatly reduced; while in some of these colonies that mode of punishment has been nearly, and in Bahamas altogether, discontinued. Nor has any inconvenience been experienced in any of these islands, so far as my information extends, in consequence of the change. On the contrary, in St. Vincent, Tobago and Trinidad, there is no appearance of a progressive diminution; and in St. Lucia, though there has been a considerable reduction within the last year, the monthly average of floggings still continues larger than it was during the first year of the apprenticeship.

In the absence of information as to any peculiar circumstances by which so remarkable a difference may be accounted for, I cannot but hope that it may yet be removed by an unremitting endeavour on the part of the special magistrates to introduce a less degrading discipline.

So long as corporal punishment, for offences committed under the apprenticeship system, is sanctioned by law, I do not feel myself at liberty to give positive instructions for its discontinuance; but I must request you to take the subject into your most serious consideration, and to impress upon the special magistracy the importance of abstaining as much as possible from the infliction of this punishment. On their judicious exertions, and under the unremitting supervision of yourself and the Lieutenant-governors, I must rely for the accomplishment of this object; the importance of which, considered as a preparation of the apprenticed classes for that entire freedom which is so soon to be theirs, can scarcely be estimated too highly. In British Guiana the magistrates have been directed to abstain, except under very peculiar circumstances, from inflicting corporal punishment, without the previous sanction of the Governor, to any sentence of this nature which they may have felt it their duty to pass. I think this precaution against the too frequent recurrence to it might be beneficially adopted in other colonies.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg.*

BARBADOS.

Enclosure in No. 108.

TABLE showing the AVERAGE NUMBER of FLOGGINGS inflicted during each Month.

COLONY.	Population (about)	AVERAGE NUMBER OF FLOGGINGS PER MONTH									
		Before August 1835.	Per Cent.	Between August 1835 and January 1836.	Per Cent.	Between January 1836 and July 1836.	Per Cent.	Between August 1836 and January 1837.	Per Cent.	Between February 1837 and July 1837.	Per Cent.
Jamaica - -	260,000	593	·228	458	·176	224	·086	374	·105	250	·096
Barbados - -	69,000	145	·210	103	·149	25	·036	22	·032	29	·042
British Guiana - -	72,000	181	·251	61	·084	31	·043	30	·041	2	·002
Montserrat - -	5,000	16	·320	32	·640	19	·380	8	·160	8	·160
St. Christopher - -	13,500	-	-	61	·451	12	·088	11	·081	4	·029
Nevis - -	6,200	-	-	34	·548	22	·354	8	·129	6	·096
Virgin Islands - -	4,200	7	·166	9	·214	7	·166	4	·095	4	·095
Dominica - -	72,000	33	·275	37	·308	33	·275	23	·191	22	·183
St. Vincent - -	19,300	-	-	45	·233	62	·321	72	·373	48	·248
Grenada - -	21,500	22	·102	21	·097	8	·037	14	·065	3	·013
Tobago - -	9,800	36	·367	26	·265	23	·234	44	·449	30	·306
Trinidad - -	16,800	53	·315	53	·315	52	·309	53	·315	60	·359
St. Lucia - -	10,500	19	·100	38	·361	46	·438	28	·266	21	·200
Bahamas - -	10,200	12	·117								
TOTAL - - -	530,000	1,117	·229	948	·178	564	·106	691	·130	487	·090

— No. 109. —

(No. 25.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *E. J. M. M'Gregor*, Bart.,
to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Government House, Barbados, 6 February 1838.

No. 109.

At the request of Captain Hamilton, special magistrate of District B., I do myself the honour of submitting to your Lordship the copy of a letter to my address, and a statement of the particulars of certain cases referred to "in a paper called the 'British Emancipator,' said to be extracts from authenticated records, and which were tried and decided" in that district by Captain Hamilton.

3 Feb. 1838,
with Enclosure.

I have, &c.

(signed) *E. J. Murray M'Gregor*, Governor.

BARBADOS.

Enclosure in No. 109.

Encl. in No. 109.

Sir,

District B., 3 February 1838.

I PERCEIVE in a paper called the "British Emancipator," several cases said to be extracts from authenticated records, and which were tried and decided by me in this district. Considering those statements convey a tendency to injure my character, and also the public welfare of the colony, I beg leave to state, for his Excellency's information, that, with the exception of one case, the whole are erroneous and exaggerated.

I have the honour to enclose a copy of the particulars of each case from the records of the trials alluded to, and humbly solicit his Excellency's interference in forwarding them to Her Majesty's Secretary of State.

C. J. Cunningham, Esq.
Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Joseph Hamilton*, S. J. P.

(True copy, &c.)

(signed) *E. J. Murray McGregor*, Governor.

From a Paper called the British
Emancipator.

DISTRICT B.

Special Magistrate, *Joseph Hamilton*.

Dec. 1836.—William, apprenticed labourer on Pilgrim estate, charged by Outram, manager, with being "absent from work on Saturday last." Defence: "He (defendant) states he cannot work his Saturdays."

Magistrate's decision: "Fifteen days' confinement, with hard labour." (!!!)

From the Special Justice's Records.

DISTRICT B.

Joseph Hamilton, Special Justice.

12 Dec. 1836.—Frere Pilgrim estate, R.T. Outram, manager, v. William, an apprenticed labourer. Charge: "Defendant was absent on Saturday last, although cautioned by the magistrate." Defence: "He cannot lose his Saturdays." Decision: "Fifteen days' confinement, with hard labour." ("Fourth offence.")

REMARKS.

William had a lame arm; he was employed attending cattle; but, from his constant neglect and refusing to mind them, was ordered

to go into the field to work with a boy's hoe, which he positively refused to do; he was brought before the special justice, who, after admonishing him and giving him the best advice, discharged him.

A few days after he was brought up again, 29th September, with the same charge against him: the quantity of work was not the object, but that he should not stand idle, setting a bad example to the gang. Sentence: "Four days' solitary confinement." He was again advised by the magistrate not to resist his master's orders.

Oct. 11.—Charge as before.—Medical attendant examined: "Does not consider the injury in the arm will prevent his using a light hoe with the other in light work; he received the injury when a babe; has seen him use the whip very well when driving;" this made six days successively he had refused to work. Decision: "Ten days' confinement, with hard labour."

Oct. 27.—Same charge.—Had worked two days very well; his master advised him this morning to behave better; but he would not listen, neither would he attempt to work, but said he would go to the Governor again. Decision: "Three days' confinement, with hard labour;" to make good the labour lost.

Nov. 8.—Charge: "Absent on Saturday last;" went to the sick-house on Monday, and discharged on Tuesday; nothing the matter with him. Decision: "Two days' solitary confinement;" to make good the labour lost.

Nov. 15.—"Absent last Saturday." Defence: "He was not paid for his extra work, therefore cannot work the Saturdays." Nelly Lynch, mother to the defendant, states she paid him his wages up to the time he left the cattle. Decision: "Six days' solitary confinement;" to return the labour lost. (Second offence.)

Nov. 28.—"Absent on Saturday last." Defence: "He has not his quantity of provisions given him when he returns out of prison." Samuel Byar states, "William has had his full proportion of provisions given him whenever he comes out of prison; last week he had a pound and a half of potatoes over his allowance." Decision: "Ten days' solitary confinement;" to make good the labour lost. (Third offence.)

William stated his case to the Governor, who wrote to the special justice to reply to it, which was perfectly satisfactory to his Excellency. I believe his master, the Honourable John R. Best, also saw the Governor concerning him.

Dec. 15.—

Dec. 15.—Weekes and Ned Weekes, coopers, on Maxwell estate, charged with “making only nine casks in 14 days, instead of one per day. Ned insolent.” (!) Sentence: “Ned, sixteen days’ extra labour; Weekes, fifteen days’ extra labour, in service of master.”

Dec. 15.—Sophia, an apprenticed labourer, charged by John Baker with “making a noise in the field, and would not work the row when ordered her.” Sentence: “Five days’ confinement, with hard labour.”

Melly Rench did not work the row ordered, and when desired to go back threw herself on the ground. Sentence: “Four days’ solitary confinement.”

Dec. 16.—Joseph Edwards, apprenticed labourer, charged his master, John H. Perryman, with “beating him with a whip.” Decision: “Compromised at the request of the complainant.”

Dec. 19.—E. T. Whitehall, manager of farm, charged Sam Edwards with “stealing canes.” Sentence: “Ten days’ hard labour.”

Dec. 15.—Walker and Ned Weekes: the former charged with “idleness,” the latter with “insolence.” Sentence: “Walker six days’ extra labour; Ned Weekes, five days’ confinement, with hard labour.”

Walker had a boy with him to assist, and confessed he could make a cask a day; the deficiency was to be made good in the five days, and the extra day as a punishment.

Dec. 15.—Sophia, apprenticed labourer, on Lower Greys estate, charged by John H. Baker, manager, with “disorderly conduct and disobeying the orders of the superintendent.” “Defendant was ordered upon a particular row to work; she left it, and said, ‘So help me God, I won’t;’ then went to work upon another row, making a great noise.” Sentence: “Five days’ confinement, with hard labour.”

Dec. 16.—Melly Rinah, an apprenticed labourer on Lower Greys estate, charged by John H. Baker, manager, with “disobedience of orders and disorderly conduct in the field.” “Defendant was ordered by superintendent to take a particular row; she left it and went away; when ordered back, she threw herself upon the ground and would not return to the field again; she made a great noise also.” Sentence: “Four days’ solitary confinement.”

Dec. 16.—John H. Perryman, employer, charged by Joseph Edwards, apprenticed labourer, with “giving him two or three stripes with a whip on his bottom;” defendant confessed “he did strike him.” Complainant: “He does not wish the trial to go on.” Decision: “Guilty;” but “compromised at the request of the complainant.”

The magistrate went through this trial contrary to the wishes of the complainant, for the purpose of obtaining a conviction, that in the event of the defendant committing a similar offence, the complainant might be discharged from all further services.

This and the last case are the only two that have been in the least correctly stated; all the others have been exaggerated, particularly the two first.

If one case of theft was overlooked, 20 more would follow the next day, and in a very short time a whole field would be cut down. It is wrong that in the time of slavery they were allowed to cut the canes with impunity, although the thefts during that period were of a more formidable nature. The negro during the crop was allowed to suck as much cane as he pleased, and many estates still allow that privilege.

(signed) *Joseph Hamilton, S. J. P.*

PAPERS RELATIVE TO THE ABOLITION OF

TABLE (B.)

RETURN of the NUMBER and EFFECT of the RETURNS of PUNISHMENTS received by the Governor of Barbados from the Special Magistrates, from the 1st June 1837 to the 31st January 1838.

DATE.	Total Number of Apprentices throughout the Island.	Total Number of Punishments inflicted under the Authority of Special Magistrates throughout the same.	Proportion per Cent. of Punishments to Apprentices.	Total Number of Males punished.		Total Number of Females punished.	The Average Number of Stripes inflicted in Cases of Punishment by Whipping.	The Maximum Number of Stripes inflicted in any one Case of Punishment by Whipping.	The Maximum of Severity in any one Case of Punishment by Confinement.	The Maximum of Severity in any other Mode of Punishment.
				By Whipping.	Otherwise than by Whipping.					
1837:										
June -	66,913	1,143	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	31	564	548	15	35	- - One month on public road; one month's imprisonment with hard labour.	- - One month's confinement to hard labour; to forfeit one month's wages.
July -	*54,578	1,206	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	7	624	575	9	20	- - Two months on public roads; 21 days' imprisonment with hard labour; one month's confinement with hard labour.	- - Three weeks' hard labour.
August -	68,963	1,350	2	11	606	733	11	18	- - 30 days' imprisonment with hard labour.	- - One month on public road; to forfeit three \$ of extra wages; four weeks' hard labour for 17 days' absence.
September -	66,653	1,227	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	17	658	552	14	25	- - One month's hard labour on public roads.	- - 21 days' hard labour; and 14 days' extra labour.
October -	66,702	911	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	26	518	367	17	30	- - One month's hard labour on the public roads; one month with hard labour.	- - Three weeks' confinement with hard labour, and to return 34 days' labour to the estate.
November -	66,537	597	$\frac{1}{2}$	15	327	255	15	30	- - One month on public roads; one month's confinement with hard labour.	- - 14 days' hard labour.
December -	66,537	612	$\frac{2}{10}$	9	326	277	22	24	- - One month's confinement with hard labour, and to return 105 days' labour; 30 days' imprisonment with hard labour; three weeks with hard labour, and then one week's solitary confinement; one month's imprisonment.	- - Four weeks' hard labour to an incorrigible female runaway; 25 days' extra labour to compensate for the same lost from absence without leave.
1838:										
January -	†50,664	721	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	11	394	316	14	20	- - Two weeks' imprisonment.	- - 20 days' hard labour.

* No Return from District B., the Magistrate being absent on leave.

† The number of apprentices for Districts B. and G. cannot be ascertained correctly.

BRITISH GUIANA.

CORRESPONDENCE relative to MR. SCOBLE'S INQUIRIES
and REPRESENTATIONS.

—No. 110.—

(No. 300.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 7 April 1837.

No. 110.

Two gentlemen, who were stated to be agents of the Anti-Slavery Society, arrived in this colony some months ago. One of them (Dr. Lloyd) stayed here but a very short time, and then proceeded to Jamaica; the other, a gentleman of the name of Scoble, is still residing in Guiana.

I beg leave to lay before your Lordship copy of a minute, addressed by me to the Government Secretary, and which was communicated to those gentlemen, as a proof of the readiness with which I was prepared to afford to them every facility of access to all public documents; as also of the perfect liberty with which they were permitted to visit every part of this province; as also to communicate with the labourers and all classes of this community. Mr. Scoble waited upon me a few days ago, and in a very long interview which I had with him, gave to me a detailed account of all the irregularities he had either witnessed or had heard of. I took down in his presence, and from his report, the particulars of each statement, in order that each complaint should be fully and regularly inquired into. I now beg leave to submit to your Lordship copy of a letter I have caused to be addressed to Mr. Scoble, acquainting him with the result of the several investigations. I respectfully submit to your Lordship that nothing can afford a more satisfactory proof of the state of this province than the paucity of the complaints made known to me by Mr. Scoble, and the mistakes and errors upon which the greater number are founded.

(A.)

(B.)

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth*.

Enclosures in No. 110.

(A.)

MEMORANDUM.

THERE are two gentlemen (Dr. Lloyd and Mr. Scoble) at present upon a visit in this colony, for the purpose of witnessing personally the working of the system of apprenticed labour. If these gentlemen or either of them have occasion to call at the office of the Government Secretary, I wish them to be informed that they may have access to any official documents, and that they are at liberty to visit any and every part of this colony in the most unrestrained manner. If in the course of their tour they should happen to be made aware of any illegal or improper transaction, all that I have to request is, that the same may be communicated to me. Occasional instances of individual misconduct, both on the side of the planter, as well as that of the labourer, must be expected. It is my duty to take care that none such pass unnoticed. I am obliged to any body who will give me information upon the subject.

Encl. in No. 110.
(A.)

It will also be useful to me to learn from strangers (so unconnected as I understand these gentlemen to be with West India property, and, of course, personally so disinterested) their opinions, together with any observations they may like to offer to me, as to the details of the apprenticed labour system. Many things, in particular, may occur to a cool inquirer, which, in his anxiety to obtain a successful result to the measure, in general, may have been overlooked by a person more immediately superintending its operation. I am anxious to be made acquainted with the sentiments and opinions of all, reserving, of course, to myself the right of exercising my own judgment, and of only agreeing with those views of the subject which, after due reflection, may appear to me to be correct.

Dec. 1836.

(signed)

J. Carmichael Smyth.

(True copy.)

H. E. F. Young, Gov. Sec.

(B.)

(B.)

Sir,

Government Secretary's Office, 31 March 1837.

WITH reference to the statements which you made to the Governor when you waited upon his Excellency about a fortnight ago, and of which his Excellency made memoranda at the time, relative to several abuses and infringements of the law, which in your tour in this colony you had observed, I am instructed to inform you of the result of the inquiries which the Governor caused forthwith to be made into each individual case :

1. You were correct in the information you had received, that the working period has been reckoned, generally, in this colony, from the actual commencement of the labour. Where the field was contiguous to the dwelling of the labourer, this arrangement was productive of no injury to the labourer. When the labourer had to go some distance, as must occasionally have been the case, the loss of time was detrimental to the labourer ; to remedy this evil, his Excellency has issued a circular to the special justices ; this evil, however, can only have existed on those few estates in this colony on which labour by task has not been adopted.

2. That prædial labourers are occasionally employed as non-prædial, and non-prædial labourers in performing the duty of prædials, can hardly be prevented. The prædial labourers are too well acquainted with their own rights to allow themselves to be called upon to perform any extra labour beyond the seven and a half hours without being paid for the same. If, on the other hand, the non-prædial, that is, the house-servant, is called upon to lend a hand in any field labour, at a time when there is nothing for him to do in the house, his Excellency cannot say that he should be disposed to entertain his complaint. The non-prædial is bound to afford his labour for nine hours per day, and will receive his complete emancipation on the 1st August next year, that is, two years sooner than the prædial, who only works for seven and a half hours ; the great point will be, to see that all those classed as non-prædial receive their freedom when they are legally entitled to it. His Excellency does not conceive that either the spirit or the letter of the law is infringed by the non-prædial labourer being occasionally required to help in the field in getting in the crop at a busy time.

3. That the remaining time of those labourers who are desirous of purchasing their immediate freedom is in general appraised at a much higher rate than appears to the Governor to be correct, his Excellency is ready to admit. With a view to diminish what has been deemed an evil, his Excellency directed, so far back as on the 29th April 1836, the amount of each appraisement ; the names of the appraisers and other particulars to be published periodically in the Royal Gazette. The Governor is not aware what can be done further, so long as the terms prescribed by the law are complied with. It is in the power of the judge, to whom the valuation must be submitted for ratification, if he is dissatisfied with the valuation, to order a new appraisement.

4. Special justice M'Leod, to whom your statement, that the women on plantation Providence are overworked, was referred, denies, in a letter addressed to this office, dated the 17th instant, the fact : Mr. M'Leod states, that the women prefer working by task-work to remaining in the field the time required by law.

5. Special justice Allen, in a letter addressed to this office, dated the 27th instant, not only denies the fact of the women on Malgré Tout, in his district, being overworked, but adds, " Whatever share of work may have been allotted or required from the people of Malgré Tout, they have latterly not performed a reasonable quantity, although no formal complaint has been preferred against them on that subject."

6. It appears from the report of his honour the sheriff of Berbice, that five removals of the prædial apprenticed labourers from the several estates to which they had been attached have been effected in that district : two of them in the month of October 1830 ; one on the 12th June 1835 ; one on the 26th July 1834 ; one in August 1836. Of these five transfers, that which took place on the 26th July 1834, having been effected previously to the abolition of slavery, cannot be called in question. In the case of the removal of the 77 prædial labourers from Overwinning to Lochaber by Mr. D. C. Cameron, it appears, upon inquiry, that these people were registered unattached, and their services as such were purchased by Mr. Cameron ; he had consequently a legal right to employ them on Overwinning, or to remove them to Lochaber, as he thought most advisable. His Excellency laments that the other three transfers should have been sanctioned by the special justices. The special justices were, however, influenced by the terms in which the ninth section of the Act for the Abolition of Slavery is worded. In a subsequent case, in which the transfer of prædial labourers from one estate to another was enforced by the whip, complaints were made to the Governor, and his Excellency felt it his duty most severely to animadvert upon the conduct of the special justice, as also to issue a circular, dated the 6th December 1836, prohibiting the removal of apprenticed labourers from one estate to another without a reference to himself, in order that his Excellency might be satisfied that full justice was done to the labourers, and that there should be no latent cause for complaint. Special justices M'Leod, Heyland and Candlin acted very imprudently in the business of these transfers ; as, however, these transfers have been effected, and that the people are now settled in their new houses and grounds, it would be impolitic, and could only be productive of excitement, to attempt to send them back to the former estate, even in the event of such a proceeding being legal, which his Excellency rather doubts.

7. The special justices have been called upon to inquire into the circumstances attending the issue of provisions to the people on the Sabbath on two estates in the Berbice district, and to deal with the managers thereof, under whose orders or connivance this irregularity can be proved to have taken place according to law.

8. His Excellency is aware that on several estates the hospitals have been very irregularly and improperly managed. The state of the hospitals on the estates forms now one of the items of the monthly report from each special justice to the Governor. It is, however, due to the medical gentlemen, and to many attorneys and managers, to add that there are many hospitals as well attended to in every particular as could be wished.

9. Special justice M'Leod states, that on the 4th January he sentenced three of the Overwinning labourers to the performance of hard labour on the estate for one week. Mr. M'Leod appears to have overlooked the difference of extra labour, at the rate of one hour and a half per day, which is all the extra labour the estate can receive, and the hard labour, at the rate of 12 hours per day, which can only be carried into execution in a gaol or police station as a punishment. This mistake will not, however, again occur, as the special justice has been made aware of his error.

10. It is perfectly true that it has been customary for some time for all male prisoners confined in Georgetown gaol to have one leg confined in the stocks at night. This measure was deemed prudent during the period when the gaol was undergoing repairs and alterations. The Governor is glad, however, that you drew his attention to the subject, and his Excellency has directed the sheriff that in future only the turbulent should be so confined. When the alterations now in progress are completed, it will not be necessary to apply any other mode of restraint than simply locking the doors of the several wards and apartments.

11. The Governor has desired the sheriff to draw the attention, at their next meeting, of the judges to the difference of food as allowed to the white and to the black prisoner in the gaol of Georgetown. The interior economy of the gaol rests (by the colonial law) with the judges; this difference of food is a remnant of the old prejudice, which his Excellency agrees with you ought to be forthwith removed.

12. The 18th article of the regulations for the Berbice gaol directs, that the daily allowance of all prisoners, without distinction, shall be half a pound of salt fish and 12 full-grown plantains. Prisoners undergoing solitary confinement are not, by the same regulations, to receive salt fish. This regulation appears to his Excellency to be a very proper one. A prisoner undergoing hard labour requires to be better fed than one sentenced to solitary confinement. The Governor will, however, give orders to the sheriff that a supply of salt shall be issued.

13. Cornelius, the apprenticed labourer who is stated by you to have received 15 lashes in the gaol of Berbice, by order of the sheriff, whilst undergoing a sentence of imprisonment awarded to him by special justice M'Leod, appears, from the report of the sheriff, to be a man of very bad character, and to have been regularly and legally punished. On the 4th of November, Cornelius received in the gaol of Berbice 30 lashes, by order of special justice M'Leod, for being a runaway, and he was further sentenced by the special justice as aforesaid to hard labour for one month, with solitary confinement when not at work. Cornelius made his escape from the penal gang, was tried upon the 22d November, and found guilty of making his escape from the penal gang, and of taking with him the gaol clothing, which had been supplied to him. He was adjudged an additional month of hard labour. Again, on the 6th December, Cornelius made his escape; he was retaken, and sentenced by the sheriff, under the 8th article of gaol regulations, to receive 15 stripes, and to perform hard labour for an additional month. Cornelius again made his escape upon the 15th of December, for which offence he has been sentenced by the sheriff to one month's solitary confinement. On a careful review of the whole of the circumstances of the case of Cornelius, his Excellency is of opinion, that the first punishment awarded by special justice M'Leod was more severe than the nature of the offence required. The month's hard labour would have been sufficient without the flogging. The repeated attempts to escape from the custody of the sheriff rendered the subsequent punishments necessary. No corporal punishment can, however, now take place in this colony until the particulars of the misconduct calling for such a mode of punishment have been laid before the Governor. In the case of Cornelius, the sheriff (having previously resorted to all milder punishment) was justified in adopting the measure he at last resorted to for the maintenance of the necessary discipline and subordination amongst the prisoners intrusted to his care. However averse the Governor may be to corporal punishment, his Excellency cannot but express his opinion that in this instance the sheriff acted for the best.

14. The tread-mill regulations at Berbice gaol establish as the maximum of labour eight spells of 15 minutes, with intervals of half an hour between each, and four additional spells of 12 minutes, with intervals of 25 minutes between each. The whole period a prisoner can be kept during each day upon the mill is consequently two hours and three quarters and a few seconds; an amount of hard labour surely not beyond the quantum of that which an able and healthy man ought to be compelled to undergo, if he is to perform any hard labour at all.

15. The death of the apprenticed labourer, Kendall, attached to Goldstone Hall, was inquired into by the coroner and jury according to law. The verdict was, that Kendall came by his death by drowning, supposed to have been seized with a fit of apoplexy whilst bathing. The Governor has no reason to doubt the propriety and justice of that verdict; with which the sheriff of Berbice (one of the very best, most active and upright magistrates his Excellency ever met with) declared himself quite satisfied.

BRITISH GUIANA.

16. The last case brought to the Governor's notice by you is that of three female apprenticed labourers, stated to have been confined in the cells at plantation Goldstone Hall by order of the special justice, and that one of the women alluded to had been taken with the pains of labour whilst in the cell. Special justice M'Leod, in whose district plantation Goldstone Hall is situated, and to whom the complaint was referred, denies that any pregnant women have been confined in the cells at plantation Goldstone Hall. The special justice, however, acknowledges that three pregnant women were ordered by him to be locked up at night (in a room) for neglecting or refusing to work with the hoe five hours per day in weeding a dam; and states that one of them was taken in the pains of labour whilst confined in the room in question. At the advanced period of pregnancy at which, at any rate, one of these women appears to have been, the Governor cannot approve of the conduct of the special justice, who has acted contrary to the spirit of the instructions contained in his Excellency's circular of the 18th May 1836: special justice M'Leod will be required to be more circumspect in future.

Having thus gone through every subject which you were good enough to bring to the Governor's notice, I am desirous to add, that it affords his Excellency very great satisfaction at finding so many of the complaints to be capable of being easily explained or extenuated. With the means at his Excellency's disposal, the Governor may say, that if some things have been omitted, much has been done. From the ignorance of some, and the unwillingness of others, the progress of the great change in the constitution of the society of this colony may occasionally be in some slight degree impeded. Whenever any thing wrong is however made known to the Governor, a remedy, if possible, is immediately applied. If in your future excursions, or during the remainder of your residence in this colony, you should perceive any thing which may appear to you to be at variance with the words or the spirit of the Act abolishing slavery, his Excellency will be obliged to you to communicate the same to him without delay.

John Scoble, Esq.

(A true copy.)
(signed)*H. E. F. Young,*
Government Secretary.I have, &c.
(signed) *H. E. F. Young,*
Government Secretary.

—No. 111.—

(No. 225.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart.

No. 111.

Sir,

Downing-street, 19 July 1837.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 300, of the 7th April.

Until the receipt of this communication, it had not occurred to me to hear of the mission of Messrs. Lloyd and Scoble, nor was I even acquainted with the names of these gentlemen. I concur with you in thinking that the result of this inquiry is satisfactory. I fully approve of the prompt inquiry which you have instituted into every case of complaint which was brought to your notice by your communications with them.

I am confident that these gentlemen must have felt gratified to you for the entire frankness and unreserve with which you proffered access to the records of your government, and entered into explanations with them on a subject, with regard to which the people of this country, feeling in it a deep and just interest, are entitled to all the information which the officers of Government can supply. In adopting this course in the present instance, you appear to me to have exercised a sound discretion, and it is scarcely necessary for me to express a hope that it will not produce any inconvenience by being drawn into a precedent in other cases, when less reason may exist for similar conduct on the part of Her Majesty's representative, who at the same time, it must be remembered, cannot be compelled to vindicate his administration to any authority inferior to that of Her Majesty's Government, or of Parliament.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Glenelg.*

—No. 112.—

(No. 363.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 112.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 8 August 1837.

I HAD the honour, on the 7th April last, in my despatch, No. 300, to draw your Lordship's attention to the proceedings of Mr. Scoble in this colony, and to submit

submit to your Lordship a copy of a letter I caused to be addressed to that gentleman, acquainting him with the result of the investigations I had caused to be made into the various irregularities connected with the treatment of the apprenticed labourers which he had made known to me.

Mr. Scoble left this colony a few weeks ago; but, previously to his departure, he addressed a letter, dated 16th June, to the Government Secretary; and forwarded to that officer, to be communicated to me, a series of suggestions (25 in number) connected with the government of the apprenticed labourers. I take the liberty of submitting to your Lordship a copy of these suggestions; together with my observations and remarks upon each in succession. I have also deemed it my duty to submit my reflections upon the statements, as contained in Mr. Scoble's letter to the Government Secretary (as already quoted) to your Lordship. Your Lordship will observe, and I am certain with considerable regret, that the good which might be gained by the observations of a judicious and impartial traveller, is, in the case of Mr. Scoble, neutralized by the haste with which he arrives at his conclusions, and, but too frequently, upon erroneous and inaccurate information.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth.*

Enclosures in No. 112.

(A.)

COPY of certain SUGGESTIONS relative to the Government of the Apprenticed Labourers in *British Guiana*, by *John Scoble*, Esquire; together with the REMARKS of the Governor, Major-general Sir *James Carmichael Smyth*, thereon.

Enc. in No. 112.
(A.)

SUGGESTIONS.

1.—THAT a registry should be kept in each judicial district of births, marriages and deaths.

2.—All deaths of apprenticed labourers should be immediately reported to the special justices resident in the districts in which they occur.

3.—The special justices should be called on to report quarterly the number of free children on the estates within their jurisdictions.

4.—Greater protection than at present exists is required for the special justices in the *bonâ fide* discharge of their duties.

REMARKS.

1.—A registry is kept by the clergymen of the different persuasions of the christenings, the marriages, and of the funeral services they severally perform, and all marriages are moreover registered by law in the office of the colonial registrar. The funerals are also registered (within the precincts of George Town) by the colonial sexton. If any thing further should be considered hereafter advisable, it ought to be done, in my opinion, through the parishes, and by means of parish officers. The special justices of the judicial districts are already fully occupied, without having these proposed additional duties placed under their charge or superintendence.

2.—All sudden deaths, and deaths when the parties have not been attended by a medical practitioner, must already by law be reported to the nearest justice of the peace, who is enjoined to assemble a jury, to examine the body, to inquire into all the circumstances upon oath, and to report to the sheriff, forwarding at the same time the verdict of the jury; any thing further appears unnecessary, and a work of supererogation.

3.—I agree to this suggestion, only making the report annual instead of quarterly. I have already called for a report of this nature, but more in detail, with a view to adopting some general plan of instruction. I beg to refer to my despatch, No. 360, of the 27th July 1837.

4.—The propriety of this suggestion is not very evident. There have been, since the establishment of special justices in this colony, but two prosecutions having reference to their proceedings. Special justice Ross was prosecuted by Mr. Van der Pant, a manager, for illegal imprisonment. Mr. Ross was defended by the Attorney-general; the plaintiff was nonsuited, and sentenced by the supreme court to pay treble costs. In the second case, viz. that of special justice Allen, who was prosecuted by an inhabitant of the name of King, for illegally confining his arms in what are called handstocks, the business ended by the death of Mr. King, previously to the trial coming on. In this case I did not direct the Attorney-general to defend special justice Allen, inasmuch as the circumstance which gave rise to the confinement of Mr. King did not originate altogether in a point of public duty. I therefore waited the result of the trial before I should form any opinion as to the propriety or impropriety of the conduct of special justice Allen; and determined how far I should have felt justified in applying to His Majesty's Government for the repayment of his expenses.

BRITISH GUIANA.

SUGGESTIONS.

5.—Female apprenticed labourers in a state of pregnancy should not be committed to gaol for offences against ordinance, No. 43.

6.—Female apprenticed labourers who are sentenced to the tread-mill in gaol should not be compelled to put on their working dress, nor indeed to work on the mill, in presence of the male prisoners condemned to the same punishment.

7.—The right of the negro to the possession of his hut should be clearly stated, together with the right of his relations and friends to have access to him, agreeably to Lord Glenelg's despatch to Sir E. Murray M'Gregor, Baronet, dated 28 July 1835.

8.—The right of non-prædials who have been wrongly classified to have their registration revised should be decided judicially by the chief justice, as in the case of *Betsey v. Leid Grenada*. The decision of the Government on the subject will be found in Par. Pap. part 3.

9.—The appointment of managers, &c. as headboroughs, and their creatures as constables, is open to serious objection, and has been attended with great abuse.

10.—Regulations are necessary to enforce the performance of the duties incumbent on justices of the peace, headboroughs and constables.

11.—There ought to be penalties against persons guilty of contempt of court in the case of special justices.

12.—Clerks of the peace are much wanted in each district, who would be both a relief and a check on the special justices.

13.—The number of negro houses on the plantations actually in cultivation in the colony should be ascertained.

14.—Places of temporary refuge should be found for apprenticed labourers and indented servants when driven from their masters' yards, or are in need of medical treatment.

15.—Measures should be taken to secure a provision for aged, infirm and diseased negroes at the termination of their apprenticeship.

REMARKS.

5.—Female apprenticed labourers in a state of pregnancy are prohibited from being put on the tread-mill, or being compelled to perform hard labour. I cannot however go the length that Mr. Scoble proposes, namely, that a female apprenticed labourer in a state of pregnancy is not to be committed to prison for any offence she may commit against any of the enactments of ordinance, No. 43.

6.—Female apprenticed labourers sentenced to the tread-mill do not put on their gaol dresses in presence of the male prisoners. They have a distinct room to themselves. To prevent, however, the possibility of any indelicacy taking place, the sheriff has been directed never to allow female prisoners hereafter to be placed upon the tread-mill at the same time with prisoners of the other sex.

7.—I should not anticipate any practical good from the discussions which could not but arise if this suggestion was acted upon. Few, if any, inconveniences are found to arise from the present state of the law, and the general understanding which prevails throughout the colony upon this subject. After the 1st of August 1840 the house of the labourer will be held by him on as firm a tenure as that by which any cottager in England has possession of his dwelling. I think it rather advisable to avoid defining too scrupulously rights and privileges which will so shortly find their level.

8.—I concur decidedly in the propriety of this suggestion. I beg to refer to the 6th paragraph of my despatch to your Lordship, of the 15th November 1835, No. 79, upon the subject. It is my intention early next spring to introduce an ordinance, extending the power of the judges of the supreme court, so as to allow them some additional months for the correction of erroneous registration.

9.—The appointment of headboroughs and constables are made by the special justices in their several districts. I do not see how, in the absence of any police, we could do without them. If any headborough abuses his authority, and such abuse is made known to me, of course he would be removed.

10.—I know not what further regulations are required than those contained in the several ordinances.

11.—The special justice can of course commit for contempt of court. I do not see what further is required.

12.—I agree to the propriety of this suggestion. I have more than once suggested the idea of clerks of the peace being appointed for each of the three districts into which the colony is divided. It is, however, necessary that not only the members of the court of policy, but also the financial representatives, should concur in the propriety of such appointments before they would sanction the expense.

13.—The number of negro-houses upon the several estates is already well known. There is hardly an estate in this colony, out of debt, on which new and superior cottages to those formerly in use are not now being built.

14.—This suggestion is quite unnecessary; apprenticed labourers and indented servants are supplied with medical treatment by their employers. It is in contemplation to establish dispensaries for the relief of such indigent sick as hereafter may have no claim upon their employers.

15.—This suggestion would, at any rate, of course have been a matter of consideration and arrangement after the 1st August 1840; at present it is unnecessary. It will not be forgotten.

16. Sick

Vide Papers relative to the Abolition of Slavery, 1833-5, part 2, p. 133.

SUGGESTIONS.

16.—Sick-houses should be kept unlocked during the day.

17.—Apprenticed labourers about to be brought before the special justice should have due notice of the charges to be preferred against them by their employers; and be allowed to take witnesses for their defence with them.

18.—Special justices should not be allowed to pass conditional sentences on apprenticed labourers.

19.—No apprenticed labourer should be brought before a special justice, except upon summons duly issued.

20.—Steps should be taken to supply the apprenticed labourers with a sufficient supply of food.

21.—The circumstances of the apprenticed labourers at the wood-cutting establishments should be inquired into, destitute as they are both of the protection of the special justices and the aid of medical practitioners.

22.—The gaol surgeon should not be permitted to supply the patients under his care either with medicine or food.

23.—It is desirable that there should be uniformity in the administration of the Abolition Law by the special justices.

24.—Above all, there should be a superintending special justice, whose business it should be to visit each district, to attend to special cases, &c.

REMARKS.

16.—I differ with this suggestion. The sick-houses should be locked or opened according to circumstances. The arrangement at present is in the hands of the special justice, and to him it may safely be confided.

17.—The latter part of this suggestion is a truism which nobody can deny, and which, I hope, in no case has been overlooked by any special justice. With respect to due notice of the charges against them, Mr. Scoble ought to define what he means by due notice. If he requires further notice than that given by the delivery of the summons, I disagree with him. The ordinance, No. 43 (ch. 2, s. 819), is sufficiently clear upon these points. If in any case they have not been attended to, the special justice proceeding irregularly to convict an offender, of course has laid himself open to severe censure. I am not, however, aware of any such erroneous conduct. The records transmitted to the office of the Government Secretary, on the contrary, show, generally, evidence of the several enactments having been carefully complied with.

18.—I cannot agree to this suggestion. I think a special justice who sentences an offender to so many hours of extra work, but leaves an authority with the manager of that estate not to enforce the whole of the sentence, provided the labourer conducts himself more to his satisfaction, and expresses sorrow for his offence, cannot be said to act contrary to the interests of the apprenticed labourer. I should be sorry to see conditional sentences of such a nature done away with.

19.—This suggestion is already met and provided for in ordinance 43.

20.—My letter of the 29th April to Messrs. M'Turk, Lane and Fullarton, a copy of which was forwarded to your Lordship in despatch of the 29th April 1837, No. 310, will show that I have not been inattentive to this very important subject.

21.—Local circumstances, of course, prevent the apprenticed labourers employed upon remote wood-cutting establishments from being so carefully looked after as those who form a more dense population. Reference, however, to the registrar's returns during the period of slavery will show that the mortality amongst labourers so situated was less than on other establishments. In a Bill now before the court of policy, providing for the superintendence of the rivers and creeks of this colony, I have proposed arrangements which will lessen the force of Mr. Scoble's remark.

22.—This objection is good in theory; in practice, however, it is not very important, inasmuch as the daily average number of patients does not exceed five, for each of whom the gaol surgeon receives an allowance of one guilder per diem. His total receipts for the year 1836 amounted to 287*l.* sterling.

23.—It is hardly to be expected that 15 gentlemen, taken from various professions, and having received different educations, should adopt the same views in administering the details of the ordinance for the government of the apprenticed labourers. If the special justices in British Guiana err, it is not for want of detailed instructions and detailed information upon every point connected with their duty having been repeatedly and earnestly communicated to them.

24.—If this suggestion had been made at the commencement of the operation of the apprentice labour system, I, for one, should probably have deemed it advisable. Now, however, that more than one-half of the period of the apprenticeship has passed away, that the information which such a superintending officer might usefully, at first, have imparted to the executive government has been acquired in the course of its experience of the working of the system, I think that the

danger

BRITISH GUIANA.

SUGGESTIONS.

REMARKS.

25.—There ought to be a medical board to inspect the sick-houses, and to frame rules for their government.

danger of lessening the authority of the special justices in the eyes of both employer and labourer is not counterbalanced by the presumed advantage of a new office, requiring a special law for its creation.

25.—A superintending medical man would have been a useful officer, had such an appointment been made at the commencement of the system. I am disposed, however, so far to concur in this and the preceding suggestion, as to turn over in my mind the propriety of sending occasionally commissioners to the more remote districts, for the purpose of inspecting and reporting upon the state of the peasantry, and the administration of the laws affecting them. If, after well weighing the subject, I should deem it advisable to send such commissioners, I shall have the honour to report to your Lordship accordingly.

8 August 1837.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth.*

(B.)

(B.)

EXTRACTS from a LETTER addressed on the 16th June 1837, by *John Scoble, Esq.*, to the Honourable *Henry Young*, Government Secretary; together with REMARKS by Major-general Sir *James Carmichael Smyth, Bart.*, Governor of British Guiana.

EXTRACTS.

1.—SEVERAL cases of sudden death, or death resulting from want of medical treatment, have come under my notice since I came to the colony, on which no inquests have been held.

2.—The mortality among the free children in British Guiana has been very great since the 1st August 1834. It is a matter of the first moment that these little ones should be cared for, and not left to the mercies of men alike destitute of justice and humanity.

3.—A short time since I found four women in gaol, committed by special justice Lyons, for contumaciously refusing to do the work given them, from the 10th to the 17th May. Rebecca appeared to be eight months, Madeline and Matilda seven months, and Europa six months advanced in pregnancy. They belonged to Vryheid's Lust. They stated that the work given them was entirely beyond their strength; they appeared to have suffered much from their confinement. They were sentenced to gaol for 14 days.

4.—Sometimes pregnant women have been sentenced to, and worked on, the mill.

5.—I have seen the women in tears when they have been compelled to undress in the room appropriated to them for that purpose in the mill. Their room is open to the inspection of the men.

6.—Instances are continually occurring of the interposition of managers to prevent relations and friends from visiting each other. A short time since two men, who have wives, on plantation Arcadia (Mr. Mackinnon, manager), were both assaulted by him, his overseer and a constable, and finally locked up in the sick-house for the night. It appears next morning they went and complained to

Captain

REMARKS.

1.—All cases of sudden death ought, under the ordinance establishing coroners, to be reported to the nearest justice of the peace. If any sudden death has not been so reported, if the particulars are made known to me, the Attorney-general shall be directed to prosecute for the penalty.

2.—I have already had the honour of drawing the attention of the Secretary of State to this subject.

3.—The explanation of special justice Lyons, relative to the four women alluded to in this paragraph, will be found attached to this document, under letter (A.), and I feel it due to that officer to add, that to me it is perfectly satisfactory.

4.—If pregnant women have been so sentenced, it has been done contrary to regulation. To prevent, however, all misconceptions upon this subject, I have issued an order to the respective sheriffs and gaol-keepers, never to place a female, under any circumstances, upon the treadmill.

5.—The high sheriff, as also the gaoler, deny the accuracy of that part of this statement which has reference to the apartments of the women being open to the inspection of the men: *vide* Enclosure (B.) From my own personal knowledge of the gaol, I agree with the high sheriff and the gaoler.

6.—The cases here alluded to have been referred to special justice Delafons for investigation. His report will be found attached under letter (C.)

7.—I beg

EXTRACTS.

REMARKS.

Captain Delafons, who told them the manager had a right to prevent their going on the estate if he chose: whether any redress has been afforded these men, I am not able to say.

7.—The circumstances of those negroes who ought to have been registered non-prædials, in consequence of their having heretofore been employed in domestic offices, certainly requires instant attention; not only are they liable, under their present circumstances, to serve two years more than their appointed time, but they can be sent into the field to satisfy the caprice of a house-keeper, or the whim of a manager; and if to avoid that, to them degrading and painful alternative, they seek to purchase the residue of their apprenticeship, they are compelled to pay double or treble their actual value.

8.—Only such managers as are known to be just and humane should be appointed headboroughs.

9.—Go in whatever direction you please, you will generally find the negro-huts in a most wretched state; the married and the unmarried crowded together, whole families occupying single apartments; many without houses, and obliged to shift for themselves. On some estates, the labourers have actually been, for several years, without accommodation. A man from Sage Pond complained, in my presence, as well as that of his manager, that he had been destitute of a hut for years; that he had complained again and again to the manager about it, without effect; that he had left the estate in consequence of it, and had been flogged twice by Captain Delafons; that he had told Captain Delafons the cause of his leaving the estate, and that nothing whatever had been done to redress the grievance; that many others were in similar circumstances with himself; and that the general character of the huts was most wretched.

10.—On the larger estates, such as the Kitty and La Penitence, the huts are crowded, every room being occupied; the married people have no privacy, and the younger people are allowed, too frequently, to herd together to the great deterioration of their morals; on Le Repentir, in one hut, may be found two families, consisting of 11 people, and one old man. The accommodation of the negroes is very bad; Mr. Arrindell himself told me it would cost 1,200*l.* or 1,400*l.* to put them to rights; and that, being only the renter of the estate for a limited time, he would not go to that expense.

11.—I am informed that Mr. Arrindell has contracted to cleanse the Lamaha canal, thus making the people a job-gang; the women are, at present, at work in it; and the men are to follow them in a short time; the people are suffering much from this arrangement, and are likely to suffer more before it is finished.

12.—The number of aged, infirm and diseased negroes, including lepers, is very great, much larger, indeed, than is generally supposed; something must be done for these poor creatures or they will starve and perish.

154.—II.

7.—I beg to refer to my despatch of the 15th November 1835, No. 79, the 6th paragraph of which is upon this subject. It is my intention, early in the spring of next year, to bring forward, in the court of policy, an ordinance, empowering the judges of the court to rectify erroneous registrations within a limited period.

8.—The appointment of headboroughs and constables is with the special justices. If they misconduct themselves, they are of course liable to be removed from office.

9.—I deny the correctness of the general assertion; very many of the negro-houses are as comfortable and in as good order as could be desired. There is a general spirit of improvement prevailing at this moment; and the advertisements in the newspapers will show that the proprietors are, very generally, incurring considerable expense in building detached cottages, in lieu of the long ranges of buildings formerly constructed. With reference to the case stated to have occurred at plantation Sage Pond, the report of special justice Delafons will be found under letter (D.) The conduct of the special justice, in flogging the man in question, I much disapprove of; but I myself saw the apartment at Sage Pond, which was stated to be his, and do not conceive that he, as a single man, had any cause to complain.

10.—Having referred this statement to the proper authorities, I subjoin their reports, under letters (E.), (F.) and (G.) The evils complained of are in progress of being remedied.

11.—Subjoined, under letter (H.), is the report of the special justice of the district.

12.—This is a matter for future arrangement, which it may fairly be presumed will not be overlooked in framing the laws for the government of the labouring population for the period after the 1st August 1840.

L 3

13.—This

BRITISH GUIANA.

EXTRACTS.

13.—The apprenticed labourers are brought without any previous intimation before the special justice; the charge then preferred is sustained by the evidence of the manager, overseer or driver; no witnesses are called for the defence; and after the usual "What have you got to say for yourself?" the accused is convicted and punished. The proceedings before the special justice are too frequently a mere mockery of justice. The apprentices feel it to be so; and sullenly submit to that which appears inevitable.

14.—Conditional sentences are clearly illegal; they place a power in the employer's hands which he wields with tremendous severity. Mr. Kellock is said to be famous for these sentences, and other acts of his, which are equally illegal; such as the infliction of pecuniary fines, giving the medical men authority to lock sore-foot people in the stocks, &c. &c. These things have given him high repute with the planters in his district; one of them has built a house on Leguan expressly for his accommodation; and others have subscribed and purchased him a boat; and have further determined to supply him with two men, at a cost of about 70 joes per annum. A friend of mine has seen the list of subscribers, and the propositions that they have consented to pay.

15.—I do not believe there are 50 estates in British Guiana where the people get their full allowance of plantains and salt fish. About two-thirds of the quantity is as much as they get on most plantations; and on some, scarcely more than one-half! When rice or corn-meal is substituted for plantains, it does not last them more than half of the week. If it be inquired how they support themselves under these circumstances, the reply is, that they go to the neighbouring estates, and beg of those who are better off than themselves; and that failing them, they pilfer. This I have had from their own lips, in different parts of the colony.

16.—There are, I believe, 70 or 80 establishments up the Demerara river alone, on which there are a large number of apprenticed labourers destitute of religious instruction, magisterial protection and medical advice. It would be well if some gentlemen, in whom confidence could be placed, were commissioned to visit these establishments, and report upon them. If this were done, I think sufficient reason would be discovered to prevent any more grants of land for the purposes of such establishments; unless the parties would guarantee that none but free persons should be employed thereon.

REMARKS.

13.—This is a most erroneous representation of the proceedings of the special justices. Although I have had, occasionally, reason to be much dissatisfied with several individual magistrates, yet I cannot agree in the propriety of such a sweeping condemnation of them as a body.

14.—Mr. Kellock is one of the very best of my special justices. The boat said to have been subscribed for and purchased for him, I myself purchased and paid for out of the King's chest (as per receipt annexed, under letter I.), to enable him to visit the different islands of which his district is composed. I have already given my opinion of conditional sentences, and which I here repeat: the hire of a boat's crew for the service of the special justice is defrayed by a small assessment on the plantations of his district. It was discussed in the combined court, whether this item of expense should be defrayed out of the general revenue, or be allowed to continue as a charge upon the proprietors of the district. It was the opinion of the court that the present arrangement should continue. The special justice neither receives the money nor pays the people. The crew are provided for him.

15.—On estates where salt fish and plantains are issued, I am of opinion that the labourers are perfectly well fed. I agree that the existing allowance of rice or corn-meal, when substituted for plantains, is not sufficient. I beg to refer to my despatches of the 23d and 29th April, Nos. 304 and 310,* upon the subject.

* *Vide* Nos. 115 & 116.

16.—From the last estate to the residence of the postholder, there are—

2 Justices of the peace.

2 Medical men.

2 Catechists.

1 Clergyman.

984 } Labourers, males and females.

797 }

It would therefore appear that the 1,781 apprenticed labourers located at the different wood-cutting establishments up the Demerara river, if not so well supplied with medical advice as could be wished—if not so fully under magisterial protection as might be advisable—if not so amply provided with religious instruction as would be desirable, are nevertheless not so completely destitute in those essential particulars as represented by Mr. Scoble.

8 August 1837.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth.*

LIST of ENCLOSURES to accompany these REMARKS.

BRITISH GUIANA.

- (A.)—Report from Special Justice Lyons, respecting the Imprisonment of four Women in gaol, belonging to Plantation Vryheid's Lust.
- (B.)—Letter from the High Sheriff, and Enclosures relative to the Apartment for the Women, when preparing for the Treadmill, not being open to the inspection of the Men.
- (C.)—Report from Special Justice Delafons, relative to two Labourers not being permitted to visit their Wives, located on Plantation Arcadia.
- (D.)—Report of Special Justice Delafons, relative to a Labourer belonging to Plantation Sage Pond, having been twice flogged by his authority, for leaving the estate.
- (E.), (F.), (G.)—Reports relative to the accommodation for the Apprenticed Labourers on the Plantations Kitty, La Penitence, and La Repentir.
- (H.)—Report of Special Justice Allen, relative to the employment of the Labourers belonging to La Repentir, in cleaning out the Lahama Canal.
- (I.)—Copy of the Receipt for the Purchase-money of a Boat, for the service of Special Justice Kellock.

8 August 1837.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth.*

(A.)

Sir,

District B., 29 July 1837.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, on the subject of four pregnant women, Rebecca, Europa, Matilda, Madeline, apprenticed labourers, attached to plantation Vryheid's Lust.

I have, &c.

Hon. *H. E. F. Young*, Gov. Sec.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *A. W. Lyons, S.J.P.*

REPORT.

THE apprenticed labourers, Rebecca, Europa, Matilda, Madeline, were brought before me, the 17th May, and charged by J. H. Haly, manager of plantation Vryheid's Lust, with contumaciously refusing to do any work; to which charge they, the said labourers attached to plantation Vryheid's Lust, pleaded guilty, that they were pregnant and unable to work.

I told them they must do a little work, as it was better for them than to sit down in their houses; they said no, they would do no work. I then said, if you will try and do a little work about the yard, and which is all the work the manager wishes you to perform, in weeding about his house with a hoe, and only do what you are able, if you will promise me this, I will not punish you; I know you are able to do this, because I have seen you go to George Town with a large tray of yams and other things on your hours on Saturdays, and you refuse to do any thing for your employer. I argued with them in this way some time, but I found all remonstrance vain; they were determined not to do any thing; and under these circumstances, I sentenced them to two weeks' confinement in the colony gaol. Rebecca, who appeared to his Excellency's informant eight months with child on the 18th May, is not yet confined, the 29th July.

(signed) *A. W. Lyons, S.J.P.*

(B.)

Sir,

High Sheriff's Office, 20 June 1837.

IN reply to your letter of the 17th instant, I have the honour to state, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that I lost no time in calling on Mr. Horan, the keeper of his Majesty's gaol in George Town, to report on the statement made to his Excellency, viz:—

1st.—That the room appropriated to the women at the treadmill, and in which they change their dresses, is open to the inspection of the men, and,

2d.—That the men are worked with the women.

I have now the honour to lay over Mr. Horan's reply, to which I beg to refer his Excellency.

With respect to the first point, I can fully vouch for the correctness of Mr. Horan's statement, and further, that from the position of the door of the women's room with respect to the men's room, they cannot see into that room when the door is open.

On the second point, I believe the orders which I gave to Mr. Horan, not to allow the women to be taken to the mill-house until the men had finished their spells, and been removed back to their respective wards, have been, with the exceptions stated by Mr. Horan, attended to; yet to prevent any mistakes or misconceptions in future, I have now directed that, under no circumstances whatever, are the women to be taken to the mill until the men are removed back to their wards, so long as the present mill-house is made use of; as soon as the new building in the gaol is finished, and the mill removed into the compartment allotted to it, the separation of the classes will be more complete than could be in the present buildings.

I have, &c.

The Hon. *H. E. F. Young*, Gov. Sec.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *George Bagot.*

BRITISH GUIANA.

Sir,

Demerara, Colonial Gaol, 20 June 1837.

I BEG leave to state, in reply to your honour's letter of the 19th instant, and for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that the room appropriated to the women at the treadmill is not open to the inspection of the men, it being close boarded in, and the door and window opening in directions that could not possibly afford an opportunity for such inspection; neither are the women, under any circumstances, compelled or allowed to undress in a room open to the inspection of the men. The women have, for the last two years, been worked on the treadmill by themselves, and never taken there until after the men had been removed from the mill-house, with the exception of two or three times, when the number of women condemned to be worked on the treadmill did not exceed three or four, which number was insufficient of themselves to work the mill, and they were, under these circumstances, worked on one end of the wheel of the mill, and a sufficient number of men placed on the other end to make up the spell; whenever there was any other employment coming under the denomination of hard labour in the gaol, I have, under such circumstances as the latter, employed the women in it in preference. In short, from the strict injunctions that your honour gave me immediately after his Excellency was pleased to appoint me to this office in November 1833, to carefully guard against the male and female prisoners having any communication with each other that could possibly be prevented, and convinced as I was of the moral propriety and necessity of such attention, I beg to assure your honour that I have made it a paramount duty to enforce this salutary regulation to the utmost.

From the great influx of female prisoners condemned to the treadmill in the latter part of 1834 and the beginning of 1835, we were, during those periods, necessitated to work them separate from the males; and in June 1835, your honour directed that the old practice of taking the males and females together to the mill-house was to be discontinued, unless the number of females were insufficient of themselves to work the mill. The inspection of the treadmill rooms will convince your honour of the correctness of my explanation respecting them, if their situation be not fresh in your recollection from your former numerous instructions.

I have, &c.

To his Honour George Bagot,
High Sheriff of British Guiana, &c. &c. &c.

(signed) *P. Horan*, Keeper.

(C.)

Sir,

30 July 1837, Hague.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th instant, with an extract from a statement made respecting husbands being prevented from visiting their wives on plantation Arcadia, and have the honour to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that on the 21st March 1837, a complaint was made to me by Wren, an apprenticed labourer on plantation Profit, and June, an apprenticed labourer on plantation Henry, against Mr. M'Kinnon, the manager of plantation Mocha and Arcadia, for beating, throwing into the trench and confining Wren on the night of the 20th March, and for having confined June on the same night, and liberating him the next morning at six A. M., they having both gone to plantation Arcadia to see their wives.

I made a very strict and particular inquiry into both their complaints, and found June was the first aggressor; as, when he passed Mr. M'Kinnon going into plantation Arcadia, Mr. M'Kinnon inquired, "Who is that?" June made answer, "What is that to you? are you deaner of the canal, to be asking people who they are?" June acknowledged he knew it was Mr. M'Kinnon who made the inquiry. Now it was proved he had before been insulted when in his house by individuals belonging to other estates going to visit the apprenticed labourers on plantation Arcadia, but not knowing whom it was, Mr. M'Kinnon followed June to the negro-houses, and desired him to begone from the estate, as he did not belong to it, it being then near nine P. M. June said he would not go; a constable was called to turn him away, when he again said he would not go, but would rather be locked up, for that he had as much right there as Mr. M'Kinnon, and would come in defiance of them all. When taken to the hospital, he was again told to leave the estate, but would not, and Mr. M'Kinnon, seeing he had been so very impudent, and continuing so, confined him until the next morning, at six A. M. I dismissed this complaint of June's, because he was altogether behaving in an improper and unbecoming manner, and because he acknowledged he had never before been interrupted seeing his wife, and as it was proved he had been insolent and was not sober, it was not to be wondered he should be ordered away from an estate to which he did not belong.

I found the complaint of Wren's every way false and improper; he had commenced abusing and collared Pompey (who had confined June by order of Mr. M'Kinnon), and he struck him three different times before they told Mr. M'Kinnon, and created and caused such a riot in the negro-yard, that the manager, overseer and the constables were obliged to attend; Wren's wife, hearing the manager calling for Wren, pushed him into her house and secured the door, which the manager opened, and took Wren, and he was repeatedly desired to quit the estate; but Wren called Mr. M'Kinnon a d—d ———, was extremely rude and insolent, and did not appear to be sober; he was placed in the hospital, but he twice leaped from the middle of a plank into the trench; neither June nor Wren were ever struck, although they both resisted the constable taking them to the hospital.

I dismissed

I dismissed Wren's complaint, as it was clearly proved Mr. M'Kinnon had done no more than his duty, when finding a person not belonging to the estate creating a riot in the negro-yard, fighting and abusing the man who had done his duty as constable at near ten at night. BRITISH GUIANA.

I told both June and Wren that as they had been married so long, without any molestation in their visiting their wives, it was their bounden duty to behave peaceably and orderly, but if they did not, Mr. M'Kinnon was justified in forbidding their coming on plantation Arcadia.

To H. E. F. Young, Esq. Gov. Sec.
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Thomas Delafons, s. J. P.*

(D.)

Sir,

23 June 1837.

YOUR letter, dated 17th instant, I received on the evening of the 20th instant, and having been in District E. from the morning of the 21st until this day, I had not an earlier opportunity of making the necessary inquiry into the alleged complaint from plantation Sage Pond than this day at noon.

As no name of the complainant is given, neither any dates as to the punishments by flogging said to be inflicted by my order, of course I was obliged to refer to my record, and there find, that from August 1, 1836, to the 31st of March 1837, I had sentenced and seen three punishments by flogging on plantation Providence; those dates including my having taken and resigned the situation of magistrate on that estate. Of the three said punishments, two were inflicted upon a man named Petro, of plantation Sage Pond; the first on the 29th August, for desertion from the 8th to the 25th August 1836, to which charge he pleaded guilty: he had hired himself to the slaughter-house in town when he was apprehended. The second punishment of Petro was on the 7th September 1836, for absconding from plantation Sage Pond from the 3d to the 5th September 1836, then under sentence to be confined after work for ten nights, commencing on the 29th August. It was then proved he was apprehended in a punt, where he had hired himself, going out of the canal, called Seward and Davison's, and the punt was about to proceed to receive a load of shell-stuff for the roads. To this charge he pleaded guilty; but said he had not received any thing to eat when he absconded. It was proved Mr. Symes, the manager of Sage Pond, and deputy manager of plantation Providence, had provided a cook to prepare the breakfast for Petro before he went to work, and likewise to prepare his dinner after he had finished his work in the field. Petro on both trials was declared to be continually absconding from the estate and his work; it had repeatedly been done by him; he had been threatened to be brought before the magistrate repeatedly. He never, directly nor indirectly, made any declaration upon either trial of having complained to the manager of being without a house, and he never uttered one syllable of the kind to me, as a magistrate, nor did any others until November 10, when an apprenticed labourer, named George Charles, of plantation Sage Pond, was complained of, and who stated he had not any house. The complaint against him was not attended to, and the manager, Mr. Shaw, directed to inquire into that of the man. On the 15th November I ascertained George Charles had a house at plantation Sage Pond, and that for a very long time. The circumstance of the houses requiring repairs was never named until February or March 1837, when troubles and other requisites were sent for to repair them; but I distinctly declare, as can be proved (should other proof be deemed requisite), that the man who was twice punished by me, viz. Petro, never uttered a word when tried that he had been destitute of a house, and which cause had induced him to abscond from the estate.

I must, therefore, pronounce the complaint as false and wicked.

In justice to myself, I have to request his Excellency the Governor may be pleased to give me the name of the individual who lodged the statement of the labourer of plantation Sage Pond having complained to his manager without effect, again and again, of being for years destitute of a house, and he had told me it was the cause of his leaving the estate, and that nothing had been done by me to redress the grievance.

To H. E. F. Young, Esq., Gov. Sec.
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Tho. Delafons, s. J. P.*

Sir,

2 July 1837.

I HAD yesterday, at five P. M. the honour to receive your letter of the 27th ultimo, containing his Excellency the Governor's directions that I should report whether or not Petro, an apprenticed labourer on plantation Sage Pond, had a house on the estate at the time he was punished by me for desertion, viz. August 29th, and September 7th, 1836, and whether he had one previous to my appointment to District E.

I positively declare that Petro never made known to me at any time whether or not he had a house on plantation Sage Pond; and in consequence I wrote to Mr. Alexander Shaw, manager of plantation Providence and Sage Pond, this day, requesting he would inform me whether Petro had a house on plantation Sage Pond at the time he had been so punished, and whether he had one previous to my appointment to District E., a copy of whose letter in reply I transmit.

To H. E. F. Young, Esq., Gov. Sec.
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Thos. Delafons, s. J. P.*

BRITISH GUIANA.

Sir,

Providence, 2 July 1837.

IN answer to your favour of this day, I beg leave to state positively that the man Petro had a share of a house with his sister in August and September last; and further, that he never made any complaint on that subject until after the death of Captain Johnston, when there were several new houses erected; he then made a demand for one of them; but as others of the apprenticed labourers were more in want of houses than he, his request at that time was not complied with. He, however, since has been supplied with one in the old range; but this he refuses to accept of, and is at present and has been absconded for the last month, and is under a warrant of apprehension, which he is often in the habit of doing without any reasonable cause.

I remain, &c.
(signed) A. Shaw.

(E.)

EXTRACT from a LETTER from Special Justice *Allen* dated District C.,
Pl. Peter's Hall, 27 June 1837.

Sir,

IN reference to your letter of the 17th instant (received 23d), I have the honour to report that yesterday I visited plantations "La Penitence" and "Le Repentir," and made as minute an inspection of the negro habitations there as circumstances would permit.

On "La Penitence" I found many of the houses very much crowded, in one case six persons of different sexes lying in one room on the floor, and in two other instances, five persons so circumstanced.

Eleven people were without any location at all, lodging where they could; the majority of the labourers without bedsteads or boards to sleep on, and several of the dwellings leaky, or otherwise out of repair.

It was very evident that little attention had been paid to the wants or welfare of the apprenticed labourers of this estate.

The manager who accompanied me appeared sensible of the evils described, and has promised to use all diligence to remedy them; but a considerable period must elapse before the several arrangements proposed for this purpose can be effected.

The buildings on "Le Repentir" are in a shameful state of dilapidation, the roofs throughout leaking in every part. The space is far too limited for the number of persons it is destined to accommodate.

I found eleven persons (as stated to his Excellency) in one house, consisting of two rooms and a hall, five of them being lodged in the room below, and six lying on the floor up-stairs. The old man alluded to had been sent as a watchman to the back dam.

In another place of the same dimensions, five of different sexes were up-stairs and three below, and as one had a husband and another a wife, who slept there from other estates, ten persons, all apprenticed labourers, were lodged in these two rooms; the whole on the ground or floor.

In a third place there were seven individuals, including a child.

More than half the people had neither bedsteads (nor boards in lieu) to sleep on.

Six persons had no house at all; one of them (a man) living in the hospital.

The manager of Le Repentir deprecates very much the state of the houses, and the wretchedness of the labourers in consequence; he seems likewise anxious to correct this state of things, as will be seen from the following extract of a letter, dated the 24th instant, which he addressed to me in reply to some queries I had made him relative to the estate, viz.

"The labourers have made several complaints to me about their houses, &c. which I am aware are much in want of repair, and I have as often represented the same to Mr. Arrindell, the lessee of the estate, who informed me this morning that he has petitioned the court of justice on the subject. I trust, therefore, that we shall shortly be enabled to put the buildings in repair, and that the labourers will have no further occasion to complain."

(A true extract.)

(signed) W. B. Wolseley,
Assistant Government Secretary.

The Hon. H. E. F. Young,
Gov. Sec. &c. &c. &c.

(F.)

Gentlemen,

Government Secretary's Office, Demerara, 6 July 1837.

I HAVE the honour to forward to you, by the Governor's desire, the accompanying official report upon the lodging afforded to the labourers on plantation "Le Repentir."

I have, &c.

To M. J. Retemeyer, Esq.
J. C. Schade, Esq.

(signed) H. E. F. Young,
Government Secretary.

(A true copy.)

(signed) W. B. Wolseley,
Assist. Gov. Sec.

(G.)

Sir,

George Town, 31 July 1837.

WE regret that differences have arisen between Mr. Albouy, the lessee of plantation Le Repentir up to the 28th February last, whereby the repairs to the negro-houses on said estate have been retarded. On said day these houses were inspected by Colin Simson, Esq., and the required repairs pointed out by that gentleman to Captain Warren, the attorney of Mr. Albouy, who has until now neglected to have these repairs effected, and in consequence whereof, we have already applied to the court of justice for an authorization to institute law proceedings.

On the 1st March, Mr. Arrindell took over the estate as lessee, and has informed us on the subject, which shall have our consideration, and we beg to assure you hereby, that the repairs will be commenced as soon as possible.

The Honourable H. E. F. Young,
Government Secretary.

We remain, &c.
(signed) *M. J. Retemeyer*,
for self, *J. C. Schade*.

(H.)

EXTRACT from a LETTER from Special Justice *Allen*, addressed to the Honourable *H. E. F. Young*, Government Secretary, dated District C., 27 June 1837.

It appears that Mr. Arrindell has contracted to clear the Lamaha canal, and to keep it clean, &c.

The women have already been employed there about five weeks, and will finish, for the present, in a few days longer. In about three months, they are to commence again from Haagschiebosch upwards.

I spoke to all those whom I could immediately assemble on this subject, and clearly explained that the work was optional on their part.

They expressed themselves as satisfied with it until latterly, when they had to walk so far (about 1½ hours to the scene of labour. The able women receive two bits, and the weekly 1½ bits daily, and it seems they get home in good time, from three to four o'clock, to their houses. I fancy they will continue in the voluntary performance of the work in question during the few days which remain of the job now in hand.

(A true extract.)

(signed) *W. B. Wolseley*,
Assist. Gov. Sec.

No. 107.

(I.)

£. 23 sterling, at f. 14.—f. 322.

Sir,

King's House, 31st day of December 1834.

You are hereby required to pay from his Majesty's chest, under your charge, to Messrs. Alexander Glen & Co. for the purchase of a boat for use of Chairman, District F., the sum of Twenty-three Pounds sterling, due to them for services rendered, as per annexed account; and for the payment of which you will take the necessary receipts.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

To *M. J. Retemeyer*, Esq.
His Majesty's Colonial Receiver-general.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth*.

George Town, January 12th, 1835,
Received payment,
A. Glen & Co.
Per *J. H. Hawkins*.

No. 21

f. 257.

Sir,

Guiana Public Buildings, 24th day of August 1835.

You are hereby required to pay from his Majesty's chest, under your charge, to George Kellock, stipendiary justice, the sum of Two hundred and fifty-seven Guilders, due to him for services rendered, as per annexed account; and for the payment of which you will take the necessary receipts.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

To *M. J. Retemeyer*, Esq.
His Majesty's Colonial Receiver-general.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth*.

(A true copy.)

(signed) *M. J. Retemeyer*,
Colonial Receiver-general.

Signed for Receipt,
Geo. Kellock.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Government, British Guiana, Dr. to *George Kellock*, S. J. P.

For the following sums paid by him in erecting a boat-house, for the boat furnished by Government for official duties, and which was absolutely necessary to preserve the boat:

Paid Wessel for posts, spars and rods	-	-	-	-	f. 70	-	-
For troulies to cover roof and side	-	-	-	-	66	-	-
For labour in transporting materials and putting up house	-	-	-	-	77	-	-
Glen & Co. for four blocks to hoist up the boat, rope, &c. &c.	-	-	-	-	44	-	-
					f. 257	-	-

Wakenaam, 14 August 1835.

(signed)

Geo. Kellock, S. J. P.

District F.

(A true copy.)

(signed)

M. J. Retemeyer,

Colonial Receiver-general.

—No. 113.—

(No. 367.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 113.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 14 August 1837.

MR. SCOBLE having, upon the eve of his departure from this colony, transmitted to the Government Secretary, Mr. Young, a series of notes upon the letter of the 31st March 1837, addressed to him, by my desire, explaining the erroneous views he had taken of various matters in this colony (a copy of which was laid before your Lordship in my despatch of the 7th April, No. 300), I felt it incumbent upon me to direct a further investigation to be made in the several transactions of which the accounts, as submitted to me, were so completely at variance with the statements made to me by Mr. Scoble. I pass by all Mr. Scoble's general reflections and remarks, and attach myself only to those facts, upon the accuracy of which all his reasoning must depend.

The first fact asserted by Mr. Scoble, in his series of notes, is, that on plantations Providence, Overwinning and Lonsdale (in the district of Berbice), all the property of Mr. Henry, the women are overworked. Mr. Scoble further states, that he cannot omit the mention of two disgraceful facts, namely, the refusal of Mr. Chisholm to allow any assistance to two women either during or subsequent to their confinement. They had none (says Mr. Scoble) to care for or to attend to them.

(A.)

Under letter (A.) I submit the report of special justice M'Leod, supported by various documents denying the accuracy of the foregoing statements as made by Mr. Scoble.

Mr. Scoble says that he meant Belle Vue, and not Malgré Tout, as the estate upon which the women were overworked. The denial of the special justice having charge of Belle Vue, and the denial of the special justice having charge of Malgré Tout, are, however, both forwarded under (B. 1.) and (B. 2.)

(B.)

With reference to the removal of the Vryburg people to Overwinning, and the alleged separation of families, I have the honour to forward the report of the special justice under letter (C.) Upon this subject, I, however, propose a further investigation.

(C.)

With respect to Mr. Scoble's assertion, that Fortune, Cooper and Amsterdam, belonging to Schepmoed, were punished by the special justice for visiting their wives at Canefield, I have to refer to the report of the special justice of the district, who places their conduct in a very different point of view. (D.)

(D.)

Frederick, an apprenticed labourer belonging to Waakraamheid, unquestionably put an end to himself; but from the evidence taken by the coroner and transmitted to me, through the sheriff of Berbice, (*vide* Enclosure (E.)), no cause has been assigned for this rash Act. The projected removal to plantation Marah may very probably, as asserted by Mr. Scoble, have been the cause. I am as aware as Mr. Scoble can possibly be of the dislike the negroes have to quit an estate on which they have been located for some time; and I deplore the impolicy of these removals. I found great fault at the time with the special justice who so harshly and peremptorily enforced the removal in this case. Your

(E.)

Lordship

Lordship has, however, since informed me that the law does not prohibit these removals. I therefore (however much I may lament the circumstance) cannot prevent a proprietor from removing his people. All that I can do is to take care that every legal enactment is scrupulously attended to, and that the labourer does not suffer by the change of location.

The report of the special justice in charge of plantation La Hague is herewith submitted, relative to the mode of providing the labourers on that estate with provisions, and which report is completely at variance with the statement of Mr. Scoble. (Enclosure (F.))

(F.)

No special justice can legally sentence a labourer to hard labour on the estate. The reason is evident: it would be, if such was the law, the interest of the proprietor or attorney to be constantly preferring complaints. I am aware that such sentences have been awarded in one or two instances; but they have immediately been redressed by me. Mr. Scoble, in Mr. Young's letter of the 31st March, was fully informed upon all those points.

The report of the sheriff, and the inquest of the coroner in the case of Kendal, a labourer belonging to Goldstone Hall, accompany this despatch (Enclosure (G.)) It is ill-judged on the part of Mr. Scoble to persevere in the insinuations respecting the death of this man, in the face of such respectable evidence.

(G.)

The report of the special justice respecting the cases of Catherine, Eliza and Celia, is attached to this despatch under letter (H.); Mr. Scoble's assertions and those of special justice M'Leod are diametrically opposite.

(H.)

Under letter (I.), I enclose a letter addressed to me by special justice M'Leod, relating to the alleged unwillingness of Mr. Scoble that any of the complaints or irregularities with which he professed to have made himself acquainted should be communicated to me, for fear that I should order the same to be immediately investigated and reported upon. I beg to express my hope that the special justice has misunderstood Mr. Scoble, being unwilling to attribute the conduct of the latter to any other motives than a zeal to relieve suffering humanity, and an anxiety to assure himself, by personal inspection, that the apprenticed labourers were not defrauded of any of their rights and privileges; that individual proprietors and attorneys have committed, and will occasionally commit, illegal and impolitic acts; and that individual special justices will either fall asleep at their posts, or manifest a leaning towards the planter, are not to be denied. All that a Governor can do is to discountenance and punish all such offenders without favour or partiality. That, however, a kind and a good feeling has happily arisen; that the generality or great mass of the labourers are happy, contented, cheerful and well treated; that the apprenticed system works beyond the hopes of the most sanguine, are facts equally undeniable.

(I.)

Having thus entered into every particular alluded to in the notes of Mr. Scoble, having reference to the letter addressed to him on the 31st March by my orders, I shall not further intrude upon your Lordship's time than respectfully to refer your Lordship to that letter, to my remarks of the 8th instant upon Mr. Scoble's suggestions relative to the government of the apprenticed labourers of this colony, and to my observations, of the same date, upon his letter to the Government Secretary of the 16th June 1837, as affording convincing proofs of the accuracy and justice of the remark with which I have concluded the despatch of the 8th instant (No. 363), which I had the honour to address to your Lordship, namely, "that the good which might be gained by the observations of a judicious and impartial traveller is, in the case of Mr. Scoble, neutralized by the haste with which he arrives at his conclusions; and, but too frequently, upon erroneous and inaccurate information."

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth.*

LIST of ENCLOSURES accompanying the Despatch of the 14th August 1837, No. 367, addressed to the Right honourable the Lord Glenelg by the Governor of British Guiana.

(A.)—Report and Documents from Special Justice M'Leod, relative to the work performed by the Apprenticed Labourers upon Plantations Providence, Overwinning and Lonsdale.

(B. 1.)—Extract from a Report from Special Justice Allen, affirming that the Women on Plantation Belle Vue, so far from being overworked, have not done a fair proportion of work.

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- (B. 2.)—Report from Special Justice M'Lennan, affirming that the statement that the Women of Plantation Malgré Tout are overworked is not true.
- (C.)—Report from Special Justice De Groot, relative to the removal of certain Labourers from Plantation Vryburg.
- (D.)—Report from Special Justice De Groot, relative to alleged Irregularities connected with the Labourers of Plantation Schepmoed.
- (E.)—Report from the Sheriff of Berbice; as, also, a Copy of the Coroner's Inquest held in the case of Frederick, an apprenticed labourer.
- (F.)—Report from Special Justice Delafons, relative to the mode of issuing Plantains to the Labourers on Plantation La Hague.
- (G.)—Report from the Sheriff of Berbice, forwarding Copy of the proceedings of the Coroner's Inquest in the case of apprenticed labourer Kendal, of Goldstone Hall.
- (H.)—Report from Special Justice M'Leod, relating to three pregnant Women alleged to have been locked up by his orders in the cells of Plantation Goldstone Hall.
- (I.)—Letter from Special Justice M'Leod, reporting certain expressions and certain proceedings of John Scoble, Esq., at Berbice.

(signed)

J. Carmichael Smyth.

(A.)

(A.)

Sir,

Berbice, 30 July 1837.

THE apprenticed labourers of plantation Providence, Overwinning or Lonsdale, never complained to me of being overworked.

Apprenticed labourers charged with not doing sufficient work always state they did "as much as they were able"—try best—"work too much." I now forward the evidence of Messrs. Kirkwood, Hicks and Lowenfeld, three of his Majesty's justices of the peace for British Guiana, as well as that of Mr. Laing, part proprietor of plantation Friends, which with the evidence of the foreman of Providence and Lonsdale, will I am sure be considered satisfactory; as to Overwinning there must be some mistake, for during the time Mr. Scoble was in Berbice, the people of that estate did nothing at all; they refused to work on Providence, and the manager would not employ them on Overwinning. At any rate, the same task is given on both estates.

I am sorry I cannot send the evidence of Mr. Gunn, manager of plantation Rose Hall, who was taken ill whilst examining the work on Providence, and is now seriously ill. He, however, assured me that the people under his charge readily and cheerfully perform the same amount of labour as that done on Providence. To Mr. Gunn's credit, he has never had to make a complaint against any apprenticed labourer since August 1834; equal credit is due to the apprenticed labourers for their uniform good conduct.

I remember a man of Overwinning stating his wife had been delivered on the previous evening; that he had applied to Mr. Chisholm for a woman to sit with his wife, but without success. Mr. Chisholm was in the office at the time, also Mr. Scoble; Mr. Chisholm stated that the mother of the woman lived in the same house, and that he considered that she was capable of giving the attendance requisite; the husband declared that the party alluded to was an invalid, and could give little or no assistance; on which I stated that a woman at such a period was entitled to every consideration, and that assistance must be afforded her; that same morning a person was allowed to attend. I am not aware of any other case of a similar nature; and have made inquiry on the subject.

I cannot say what arrangement Mr. Henry made with Mr. Chisholm. I am inclined, however, to believe that this part of the report is correct. Before I conclude, I would state that yesterday upwards of 20 of the Providence people were in town before 12 o'clock after finishing their day's work, and earned from three to five guilders; they were hired by Mr. Chisholm.

H. E. F. Young, Esq.

I have, &c.
(signed) J. M'Leod, S.J.P.

PROVIDENCE WORK.

Plantation Providence, 26 July 1837.

Shakespeare, sworn.—I am foreman on plantation Providence. I am also a constable; the people of Providence work by the task; they agreed with Mr. Henry as to amount of task; this was in August 1834, when the new law came; the same task is given at present; the amount of the different tasks is as follows:—Weeding and moulding ratoons, 100 roeds; supplying, according to circumstances, from 60 roeds; trashing separate, 100 roeds, when bad, 70 and 80; cane-cutting, three persons to two punts; new small drains, two feet deep, 15 roeds; old small drains, one foot deep, 30 roeds; trenching, 10 feet of 12 foot canal, five shovel deep; relieving and supplying 50 roeds; hoe ploughing and planting seldom done; shovel plough 60 roeds; ground very soft in Doe Park; don't plant.

I am now superintending the cutting of canes; on Friday last 45 men were cutting canes; the number of hands varies every day; yesterday I had 41 men in the field. The men finish their work every day in good time; to-day I was home before two o'clock; left no one in the field; many finished before 12 o'clock.

(signed) *Shakespeare*.

Adam,

Adam, sworn.—I am foreman on plantation Providence; I am also a constable; I superintend the labour of the women; the people work by the task; they agreed with the late Mr. Henry as to amount of task; this was when the new law came; no alteration has been made in the work since that agreement was entered into; the tasks are as follows:—In cutting canes, three persons to two punts; weeding and moulding 100 roeds; stripping (only) 100 roeds; do not hoe plough; supplying 50 roeds; relieving 50 roeds, if heavy, if light, 100.

The women always finish in very good time. Soon after Christmas, some women were taken before the magistrate for not doing sufficient work; the women asked Mr. Chisholm, the manager, to allow them to work by the hours. Mr. Chisholm allowed them to do so; they took the hours, and worked in this way for four or five days; after that they returned to the old system, and have worked by the task ever since. Manager has never taken any of the women to court since that time; they have been working very well ever since; sometimes they finish by 11, sometimes by 12; by one o'clock all the women are in their houses. The people work with good heart.

Witness, *J. M'Leod*, S. J. P.

Adam's mark.

At the request of John M'Leod, Esq., special magistrate of the district, the work on plantation Providence was examined on the 26th of July by the following gentlemen.

James Kirkwood, Esq., J. P.
William Gunn.

William Laing, Esq.

James Kirkwood, sworn.—I am part proprietor of the sugar estates, Lochaber and Cane-field; both estates are under my direction; I am a justice of the peace for British Guiana; I have been twenty-one years a sugar planter; at request of John M'Leod, S. J. P. and Lambert P. Henry, part proprietor of plantations Providence and Overwinning, I yesterday minutely examined the cultivation of these estates.

I have read over the evidence of Shakespeare and Adam, foremen of plantation Providence, in regard to the amount of labour expected from the apprenticed labourers of that estate, as set forth in said evidence, and which is corroborated by the statement of the manager; I am of opinion that it can be performed with ease in less than 7½ hours.

The same quantity of work is readily and cheerfully performed by the apprenticed labourers under my charge, and I cannot see any thing in the local circumstances of plantations Providence and Overwinning to prevent the apprenticed labourers of those estates from doing the same.

(signed) *James Kirkwood*.

William Laing, sworn.—I am part proprietor of plantation Friends; that estate is under my direction; it is a sugar estate; I have been 12½ years a sugar planter.

Having been requested by Mr. M'Leod and Mr. Henry to examine the work on plantations Providence and Overwinning, I yesterday went round those estates in company with Mr. Kirkwood and Mr. Gunn; I particularly examined the cultivation, and am of opinion that the amount of task given (as per evidence of the foremen Shakespeare and Adam) can easily be performed in less than 7½ hours. The apprenticed labourers under my charge do the same quantity of work after finishing their task they perform extra labour for hire.

I see nothing in the soil of Providence or Overwinning to prevent the apprenticed labourers of those estates doing the work required of them. I consider the task to be fair and reasonable.

(signed) *William Laing*.

Office of Special Magistrate, K. District,
25 July 1837.

Mustick, sworn.—I am foreman on plantation Lonsdale, have been so employed upwards of five years; I am also a constable.

Since 1st of August we have not planted any new fields with coffee; not since the new law came.

In weeding, three persons put to each bed; no bed exceeds two and a half roeds in width; cannot say how many roeds in length; in most rows there are 90 coffee trees, the greatest number on any row 105.

In assorting coffee, 80 lbs. is the task.

If the people commence work at seven o'clock, the strong hands could finish by 12 o'clock.

Some time ago I was working in the field; was only there a few days; I was employed weeding; I had the same task as the other people; the first day I finished by 11 o'clock; I then did part of another row, which I finished next morning by nine o'clock. A man named Joris or Jonas worked next to me, "he finished all two rows in one day," he worked till six o'clock; we began work after seven.

I remember the time when Rose, Dorinda and others were taken before the magistrate; they had been leaving half rows for some days; the foreman, Monday, superintended the

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labour of the women at that time; the men took up the rows next to where the women had been working, and all finished by one o'clock.

The people have always worked by the task on plantation Lonsdale; they never wished to work by the hours till within the last few days.

The women on Lonsdale never begin work till nine o'clock; it is sometimes 10 o'clock before they take their rows.

In weeding Plantain Walk, three persons are put to a bed 22 feet wide, from 70 to 75 roeds.

Mustick's × mark.

Read over to Mustick, by

J. M'Leod, S. J. P.

Edward Hicks, Esq., J. P., and G. G. Lowenfeld, Esq., J. P., at the request of John M'Leod, special justice of the district, visited plantation Lonsdale this 26th day of July 1837.

Edward Hicks, sworn.—I am manager of plantation Busses Lust, and attorney for several other coffee estates; I am a justice of the peace for British Guiana. I have been 18 years a coffee planter; at the request of Mr. M'Leod, I have examined particularly into the system of labour pursued on plantation Lonsdale.

In regard to weeding, I consider three persons to a bed, 70 roeds in length by $2\frac{1}{2}$ roeds wide, including small drains, to be a task that can easily be performed in less than $7\frac{1}{2}$ hours. It is not a greater amount of labour than is given to effective people on other coffee estates; the same quantity of work is done by the apprenticed labourers of plantation Busses Lust in five hours. I have often seen them do the same work in four hours. I cannot see any thing to prevent the apprenticed labourers on Lonsdale doing this work. I have seen the women of Lonsdale, and they are a far more effective set of people than are on any of the properties I am connected with.

Every thing appears to be conducted on the same principle on Lonsdale as on the estate I manage.

I have been round the estate this morning; I find that all the beds are not of the same width, but no bed is wider than $2\frac{1}{2}$ roeds; some are only 22 feet wide; I find that the same number of persons are put to weed these beds; but were the beds all $2\frac{1}{2}$ roeds wide, it would be the task usually given.

In assorting coffee, 80 lbs. is a moderate task.

The weeding to be done with hoe.

On Busses Lust, 80 lbs. is the task for $7\frac{1}{2}$ hours; the greater part of the people prepare from 40 to 50 lbs. for payment per day.

(signed) *E. Hicks.*

George G. Lowenfeld, sworn.—I am a justice of the peace for British Guiana; I am one of the representatives of the estates of the late Wolfert Katz; three of these are coffee estates; the one named Gebroeden is under my particular charge. Having been requested by Mr. M'Leod, special magistrate, to examine the work given to the apprenticed labourers of plantation Lonsdale with Mr. Hicks, I this morning went on that estate.

We went through the whole of the cultivation, and particularly examined the different fields. We found that some beds were $2\frac{1}{2}$ roeds wide, some only 22 feet; in fact laid out as other coffee estates.

I have read over the evidence of Mustick, foreman on Lonsdale; he states, what I know to be the truth, that in weeding, three persons are put to each bed; the bed is from 65 to 70 roeds; each person taking a row of coffee trees. This is the amount of work given on coffee estates generally, and which is performed very frequently in less than five hours; under any circumstance this is a task which could easily be performed in less than $7\frac{1}{2}$ hours. Weeding to be with the hoe. On Gebroeden the women often do the same quantity of work in $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours. In assorting coffee, 80 lbs. is an easy task; the women on coffee estates earn extra wages for clearing a further quantity.

(signed) *G. G. Lowenfeld.*

(B. 1.)

(B. 1.)

EXTRACT from a LETTER from Special Justice *Allen*, addressed to the Hon. *H. E. F. Young*, Government Secretary, dated 27 March 1837.

WHATEVER share of work may have been allotted or required from the people of Belle Vue, they have latterly not performed a reasonable quantity, although no formal complaint has been preferred against them on that subject.

(A true extract.)

(signed) *W. B. Wolseley,*
Assistant Government Secretary.

(B. 2.)

(B. 2.)

Sir,

La Retraite, District D., 8 August 1837.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your letter of 28th ult., prefixing copy of a statement, to the effect "that the women of plantation Malgré Tout are overworked."

I beg to assure his Excellency that this statement is not true; that, so far from their being "overworked," the quantity required of them as a day's labour is moderate, and considerably within the ordinary scale of task-work; and that, in many instances, they do not perform even this quantity, and certainly do not exceed it in any case.

The Honourable H. E. F. Young,
Gov. Secretary.

I have, &c.
(signed) D. M'Lennan, S. J. P.

(C.)

Office of Special Justice of the Peace, District L.
Berbice, 12 July 1837.

Sir,

I HAD the honour of your communication of the 4th, received the 9th instant, forwarding a copy of a statement respecting the labourers of plantation Vryburg, to report thereon for the information of his Excellency.

To which I beg leave to say, that it was not I that conducted the removal of these people to District K., plantation Providence or Overwinning, being very ill at that time. Special justices Messrs. Heyland and Candlin attended, and, as I afterwards understood, managed that removal to the satisfaction of parties concerned, and did the needful; I never had a document in my possession respecting the above to be guided by in the present instance; neither have any of the labourers so removed, or those of their legal or reputed connexions (if any) as enumerated by statement, ever made a complaint to me; if the removed labourers had grievances and were so very unhappy, why not address themselves to their present magistrate and protector of District K., J. M'Leod, Esq., who lives quite near to their present abode, and there is no doubt but that gentleman would have taken it in hand by investigating them with due care. As matters now stand, the inquiry should commence in District K., either at Providence or Overwinning, where the complaining may be, and further prosecuted in District L., if found necessary.

If after this respectful explanation it be still his Excellency's pleasure for me to investigate the said statement with respect to plantation Providence or of Overwinning, in District K., on either of which said labourers were removed, I will do so directly, and request to be allowed to require the assistance of special justice K. Heyland, Esq., who is the only official gentleman that can give me the information required, where to ground upon the inquiry and report.

I am, &c.
(signed) A. Van Ryck de Groot, S. J. P.

H. E. F. Young, Esq. Government Secretary,
British Guiana, &c. &c. &c. Demerara.

(D.)

Office of Special Justice of the Peace, District L.,
Berbice, 12 July 1837.

Sir,

I HAD the honour of your despatch of the 28th of June last, received on the 9th instant, followed up by a statement received by his Excellency respecting husbands residing at plantation Schepmoed being prevented from visiting their wives at plantation Canefield, and of their having been punished (under a different pretext for such visits), his Excellency requiring my report thereon.

Unfortunately, I cannot effectually rebut this malicious charge, as all my official papers, amongst which the minutes of judicial proceeding up to 23d of November last, were destroyed by the awful fire of plantation Dankbaarbird's dwelling, where I resided.

Unconscious of receiving or giving judgment on trumped-up charges, I sent to gaol for the convictions, of which I send your Excellency a duplicate, and from which it appears that delinquents Casper, Amsterdam and Fortuin, apprenticed labourers of plantation Schepmoed, were convicted before me on the 14th November last, "for absenting themselves from the estate and employment thereof from the 21st of August last until the 1st of September following, without leave or permission so to do, causing thereby a loss of labour to the estate of eight days, and for which trespass they have incurred the penalty of the law; Ordinance, No. 43, cap. 6, sec. 4, adjudged as runaways;" they were consequently adjudged for the said offence to two months' hard labour in the colonial penal gang, with imprisonment at night; on their return to the estate, to perform extra labour for one month, at a rate of 10 hours' per day, with confinement at night by non-performance.

What plea the delinquents may have brought in their defence, I cannot say from memory.

Plantation Schepmoed is up Berbice river, and plantation Canefield is situated on the river Canje, 28 miles distant from each other; and when it is said Casper, Amsterdam and

BRITISH GUIANA. Fortuin have wives, it is also said that they have several times visited them there without leave of the manager; if this is a fact, which I much doubt, considering the distance, they must have done so between the Saturday afternoon and succeeding Monday morning, or on the holidays; and nothing could be well said against that; but if these persons were to take eight or nine days from estate's labour for such visits, either to wives or reputed wives, it would be very improper, and be a great loss to that property.

The circular despatches of his Excellency of the 31st of March last, received the 8th of April following, containing his Majesty's Attorney-general's opinion respecting access to each other of married labourers resident on different estates, explains and will guide the magistrates in future in these matters.

I hope the above will be accepted by his Excellency for report, as it is absolutely all that I can say about it.

I have, &c.

(signed) *A. Van Ryck de Groot, S. J. P.*

H. E. F. Young, Esq., Government Secretary,
British Guiana, &c. &c. &c. Demerara.

CONVICTION.

British Guiana, to wit, District L., in the Colony of Berbice.

BE it remembered, that on the fourteenth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven, at a court of special justice held this day on plantation La Retraite, in the colony of British Guiana, apprentices Casper, Amsterdam and Fortuin, attached to plantation Schepmoed, are convicted before me, Apollonius van Ryck de Groot, Esq., one of his Majesty's special justices of the peace for said colony, for that they the said apprentices, Casper, Amsterdam and Fortuin, attached as before, did absent themselves from the estate and employment thereof, from the twenty-first of August last until the first of September following, without leave or permission so to do, causing thereby a loss of labour to the estate of eight days, and for which trespass they have incurred the penalty of the law; Ordinance 43, cap. 6, sec. 4, adjudged as runaways; and I, the said special justice, adjudge the said apprentices, Casper, Amsterdam and Fortuin, attached to plantation Schepmoed, for the said offence, to two months' hard labour in the colonial penal gang, with imprisonment at night; on their return to the estate, to perform extra labour for one month, at a rate of ten hours per day, with confinement at night by non-performance daily, Sundays including.

Given under my hand and seal the day and year first above-mentioned.

(signed) *A. Van Ryck de Groot, S. J. P.*

To Vincent Simmonelli, Keeper of his Majesty's Gaol,
and Headborough or Constable of Plantation
Schepmoed.

(E.)

Sir,

Office of the Sheriff of Berbice, 20 July 1837.

(E.)

I HAVE the honour, in obedience to the desire of his Excellency the Governor, conveyed in your letter of the 18th instant, herewith to forward copy of the proceedings and inquest, in the case of Frederick, deceased, apprenticed labourer, attached to plantation Mara and Germania, and formerly of plantation Waakzaamheid.

I have, &c.

To the Honourable Henry Fox Young,
Government Secretary.

(signed) *Charles R. Whinfield,*
Sheriff.

CORONER'S Inquest held at Plantation Waakzaamheid, on the body of *Frederick*,
Apprenticed Labourer, attached to Plantation Mara and Germania.

Willemuntje, apprenticed labourer, attached to plantation Mara and Germania, sworn.—States, I am the mother-in-law of Frederick, the deceased; this morning, between 10 and 11 o'clock, I came in my house where I and Frederick were dwelling, and saw him lying on his face in the bed-room. I startled, and called out for assistance, as I perceived a rope around his neck; some people came running in, and found Frederick dead; apparently he had hung himself, and the rope must have broken. I do not know any cause to assign for his destroying himself.

(signed) *Willemuntje.*

J. V. Mittleholzer, Coroner.

Sander, apprenticed labourer, sick-nurse, attached to plantation Mara and Germania, sworn.—States, I know Frederick, the deceased, very well; I heard a noise of crying and yelling this morning, about 10 o'clock, in the negro-yard, and ran to the spot into the house of the deceased, and found him lying forward on his face; I examined him, and he was cold and dead; from a piece of rope around his neck, and another piece similar to that on his

his neck, attached to the beams of his bed-room, I concluded that he had hung himself, and that the rope must have given way afterwards. I cannot say or think what brought him to this act; I do not know any thing further.

(signed) *Sander, Sick Nurse.*
J. V. Mittleholzer, Coroner.

Felix, apprenticed labourer, attached to plantation Mara and Germania, sworn.—States, I am the father of the deceased, and know nothing about the death of my son Frederick; I heard the noise in the negro-yard, went there, and found him, Frederick, lying dead; apparently he had hung himself with a small fish-line, of which part was round his neck, and the other part fastened to a beam of his bedroom; I cannot imagine what brought him to this violent act; I cannot give any further elucidation.

(signed) *Felix, Apprenticed Labourer.*
J. V. Mittleholzer, Coroner.

D. P. Staal, medical practitioner of District L., sworn.—I know Frederick, the deceased; I have duly and carefully examined the corpse, and find no other marks of violence on his body but that of hanging, which I consider to be the cause of his death; he was a well-disposed man, and sober.

QUESTIONS by the Court.

Was he, Frederick, ever troubled with any remarkable complaint?—Once he was brought out of the field in a fit of apoplexy, about a few months ago.

At that time when you saw him, was he then still out of his senses?—Yes, he was senseless.

Had he ever had such an attack previous or after that time?—No, not to my knowledge.

(signed) *D. Polyn. Staal, Surgeon.*

Office of the Sheriff, Berbice, 20 July 1837.

I do hereby certify this to be a true copy from the original proceedings lodged in this office.

Charles R. Whinfield, Sheriff.

INQUISITION.

Berbice, to wit.

AN inquisition taken at plantation Waakzaamheid, in District L., in the colony of British Guiana, on the 25th day of October, in the year of our Lord 1836, before me, *J. V. Mittleholzer*, one of the coroners of our Lord the King for the colony aforesaid, upon the view of the body of Frederick, apprenticed labourer, then and there lying dead, upon the oaths of *A. Austine*, *H. Ayng*, *J. Russell*, *J. Riddock* and *J. Arends*, of this district, good and lawful men, who, being sworn and charged to inquire on the part of our Lord the King, when, where, how and after what manner the said Frederick came to his death, as also by what signs and marks the body of the said Frederick was known or identified, do say upon their oath, that he, Frederick, came to his death by hanging himself in a fit of temporary insanity.

In witness hereof, as well the aforesaid coroner as the jurors aforesaid have to this inquisition put their hands, on the day and year and at the place first above-mentioned.

(signed) *J. V. Mittleholzer, Coroner.*
Alex. Austine,
John Riddock,
James Russell, Jurors.
Johan. Arends,
H. Ayng,

(True copy.)

(signed) *Charles R. Whinfield, Sheriff.*

(F.)

Sir,

15 July 1837, Plantation Hague.

(F.)

REFERRING to your letter of the 28th June, transmitting a complaint made of the manner in which the provisions on plantation Hague are served to the apprentices, I deemed it my duty to show the same to *J. Sievwright, Esq.*, attorney for the estate, and who states, "It is quite true they cut their own plantains, and I believe have done so since it was an estate. Last year I tried the plan of serving them with an allowance, but could not please them, and for two weeks they would scarcely take what was cut; not wishing to have any disturbance on the estate, I allowed them to return to their old way, and since then have not heard of any complaints. I rather think they look upon it as a privilege." I inquired of *Mr. Pickthall* if he had ever refused the use of the punt; he declared he had never, since he had been manager.

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I must say, that it appears to be perfectly litigious to complain of being allowed to cut their own plantains, on a plea of its occupying at least five hours to cut at two different periods two bunches of plantains.

To H. E. F. Young, Esq., Gov. Sec.
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Thos. Delafons, S. J. P.*

(G.)

(G.)

Sir,

Office of the Sheriff of Berbice, 4 February 1837.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, that it has been brought to my notice that a person of the name of Scoble has recently been travelling in this district from estate to estate, and much exciting the minds of the apprenticed labourers, more particularly in the parish of St. Patrick, where he is represented to have circulated a most mischievous and unfounded report relative to apprenticed labourer Kendall, deceased, formerly attached to Goldstone Hall, to the effect that this man had come to his death through ill-treatment and violence—in fact, murdered; and that there had been neither inquest nor inquiry as to how he had come to his death. I have been applied to for copies of the inquest in question, in order that this prejudicial report may be contradicted, the person Scoble being now in Demerara on his return to Europe.

I however informed the parties, that, granting copies of official documents from my office without authority from his Excellency the Governor would be irregular, but that I would submit the whole to his Excellency.

I have therefore to request you will do me the favour to submit this letter and accompanying copy of inquest held on the body of apprenticed labourer Kendall, for his Excellency's consideration and commands.

To Henry Fox Young, Esq.
Government Secretary.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Charles R. Whinfield, Sheriff.*

PROCEEDINGS of a CORONER'S INQUEST held on Plantation Goldstone Hall, this 1st day of June 1835, on the body of *Kendall*, apprenticed labourer attached to that estate.

THE following jurors, viz. George Adams, William Deans, and A. A. Seear, having been duly sworn in, proceeded to examine the body of the deceased.

Dr. Richardson, sworn and examined.—I knew Kendall; examined his body yesterday, and found no marks of violence thereon, and am of opinion that he died suddenly in a fit of apoplexy while bathing.

(signed) *William Richardson.*

Goodluck, sworn and examined.—Knew the deceased, and identifies the body; I am a foreman on this estate; Kendall was working with me on Saturday the 30th ultimo; I saw him last at about half-past five o'clock P.M.; he had not then finished his row; I told him I was going home, he must try his best and finish his row; the manager asked me the following morning if Kendall had finished his row; I told him he had not; he then desired me to bring him and lock him up; I went to Gibson, who is also a foreman and constable, and told him that the manager had desired me to bring Kendall and lock him up; we both went to look for him; we went along the public road and returned by the front dam near the field where I had been at work on Saturday; when we came near the beam over the canal, between the field and front dam, we saw Kendall's jacket hanging upon a tree, and the rest of his clothes on the dam; we soon after discovered his body in the canal, and his hoe resting against the beam as if he had used it to assist him across the canal; Kendall had been taken to a special justice of the peace on the 29th ultimo, in consequence of his having refused to do any work; I sent on Saturday evening to ask of the person who had gone with him to the special justice, whether he had been sentenced to confinement, but got no reply; Kendall was with me the whole of Saturday, and I saw nothing the matter with him.

Goodluck, ✕ his mark.

Gibson, sworn and examined.—Is foreman and constable on this estate; knew the deceased, and identifies the body; did not see the deceased on Saturday the 30th ultimo. On Saturday morning, Goodluck came to me and told me he had been ordered by the manager to lock up Kendall; we went together to his house, did not find him there; Goodluck said we had better go round the front, where he had been working on Saturday, as it is likely he might have slept in the watch-house; when we came near the beam lying over the canal, between the field and the dam, we found Kendall's clothes on the dam, and his body floating in the canal, with the face downwards; examined the body and saw no marks of violence thereon. I then came to the overseer and reported the circumstance; his hoe was lying in the trench as if he had used it to cross over; I asked Goodluck why he had not locked up Kendall on Saturday night; he said he had no orders to do so. I think that Kendall, in attempting to walk over the stick, fell in the canal and got drowned.

Gibson, ✕ his mark.

Amie,

Amie, sworn and examined.—I was working alongside of Kendall on Saturday; I finished my row about three o'clock, and went to help my sister; Kendall had not finished his row then; I left him there; it did not appear to me that there was any thing the matter with him.

Amie, ✕ her mark.

Celia, sworn and examined.—I superintend the weak gang on this estate; Kendall belonged to my gang, but did not do his work; I brought him to the manager, and he sent me with him to a special justice of the peace, who reprimanded him, and told him that he should be locked up at night if he did not finish two-thirds of the usual row given to the weak gang on this estate; I carried him out to the field on Saturday morning and gave him to Goodluck, and did not see him afterwards; I did not say to Goodluck that Kendall was sentenced to be locked up if he did not finish his row.

Celia, ✕ her mark.

VERDICT.—The jurors, having maturely considered the evidence, are of opinion that the apprenticed labourer Kendall came by his death by drowning; supposed to have been seized by a fit of apoplexy while bathing.

(signed) *Geo. Adams,*
Wm. Deans, } Jurors.
A. A. Seear, }
James Kirkwood, J.P. Coroner.

(True copy.)
(signed) *Charles R. Whinfield, Sheriff.*

(H.)

Sir,

Berbice, 28 July 1837.

(H.)

I HAVE received an extract from a report made to his Excellency the Governor, respecting the confinement of certain pregnant women in the cells of plantation Goldstone Hall; I can assure his Excellency there is no truth in such report; and I again declare, that no pregnant women have been sentenced to be locked up in the cells of that estate since I have acted as a special justice.

In regard to Catherine's case, I shall only add that she never was locked up in any cell; that she was released at half-past six in the evening, and at eleven o'clock the same night she was delivered; that the child's name is Rose, and that it is never called Black-hole.

I made every inquiry as to Eliza, but no one of that name had either been locked up or had been delivered of a dead child.

I found, however, that a woman named Celia miscarried; I would beg leave to refer you to the evidence of the midwife, Barbara, on this subject, and to that of the foreman, Gibson, relative to the last charge, "that women are worked up to the period of their delivery."

I am sorry that the state of my health has prevented my making further inquiry into these reports. The evidence of Barbara and Gibson was taken on the 25th February last.

I have, &c.

H. E. F. Young, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *J. M'Leod, Special Magistrate.*

Goldstone Hall, 25 February 1837.

Gibson, sworn.—I am head foreman on plantation Goldstone Hall; I am also a constable (he then gives a statement relative to Kendall, who was found drowned); I superintend the labour of the strong gang; pregnant women do not work with me; women in their last month no work in the field at all; do any little thing about the buildings; sometimes look after the children in the Creole-house; Louisa is now sitting down in Creole-house; she is far advanced in pregnancy. Lodovica just make child; she had been getting cane-tops to tie the megass for some weeks before she make. Catherine was locked up in one of the rooms in the brick building; was not put in the cell; she did not remain long there; she called out and was released; she then went to her house and was delivered in the morning; child's name, Rose. I know Celia; she make dead child; * * * * *

* * * * * she was doing light work at the time; weeding dam with hoe; the other pregnant women were doing the same work. Barbara is midwife; the women always call upon Barbara whenever pain hold them. Becky lately made piccanini; the child is alive; no child has died for several months; no woman goes to work till one month after they make child; Barbara always says when they are to go to-work; no woman was ever sent to field two weeks after her confinement.

Provision grounds are on the estate; the ground never was taken from the people; they say they have no time to work them; they used to work them on the Sunday, now they go to church; no free children work on Goldstone Hall; they go to the school.

TASKS given on Goldstone Hall.

		Previous to 1st Aug. 1834 :		Since 1834 :	
Weeding and moulding	- -	120 roeds	- -	100 roeds.	
Digging 12 feet of a canal	- -	1 roed	- -	10 feet.	
Old small drain	- -	50 roeds	- -	35 roeds.	
Cutting canes	- -	8 feet cords, 2 roeds	- -	2 cords 6 ft. 8 in.	
Shovel ploughing	- -	60 to 70 roeds	- -	50 roeds.	
Planting (done by women)	- -	50 roeds	- -	60 roeds.	

The strong hands always finish in good time, the lazy hands only are late.

Gibson's mark.
Barbara,

BRITISH GUIANA.

Barbara, sworn.—I am an apprenticed labourer of plantation Goldstone Hall; I am mid-wife; I have acted in such capacity for many years; whenever I see a woman with belly, I ask 'em, "How many moon they carry belly;" sometime they tell me, sometime no; when pain hold 'em they come to me; I know Celia; I was not at home when she miscarry; she told me one month left for her; this was after she miscarry; I ask 'em why she no get somebody for help 'em; she say she no able; she been cook plantain in watchman house; that after eating them she feel bad pain * * * * *

* * * * * Celia told me the child dead; I did not see her till the morning after she miscarried; Celia sat down for four weeks after this in her own house; she had been very ill some time before with measles; Celia did not say what had caused miscarriage; I know Catherine; she was locked up one night in a room next dark house; pain hold 'em; she called out; was released and went home; was delivered in the negro-house; did not attend on her; I mind the child; Catherine did not tell me when she expected to make child.

Women never go to field till one month after their confinement; I always remain one week with them; Mr. Nash give them sugar; rice is given about a month afterwards.

Barbara's ✕ mark.

Mr. Scoble asserted that the hospital on Goldstone Hall was dirty; only washed once a week.

Macaw, sworn.—I am an apprenticed labourer of plantation Goldstone Hall; I am employed in the hospital; I wash it every day, Sunday or no Sunday; the hospital is kept very clean; Cressa cooks for the sick.

(True copy.)

Macaw's ✕ mark.

L. M'Leod, s. j. p., K. District.

(I.)

(I.)

Sir,

Berbice, 28 July 1837.

I THINK it my duty to state, that when Mr. Scoble mentioned the cases now under consideration, I immediately inquired into them, and reported the result to that gentleman, who remarked, "that had he known that I would have made such investigation, he never would have reported the cases to me." I then stated to Mr. Scoble, that if he did not consider the result of such inquiry satisfactory, it would be an act of justice to all parties to report the matter to his Excellency the Governor, who would immediately order the strictest inquiry to be made on the subject.

Mr. Scoble gave me to understand that such was not his object; that it was his intention to refer the cases home, when they would be tried before a very different court, when he himself would take an active part in behalf of the apprenticed labourers.

In regard to Celia's case, I stated that it all depended on the nature of the work she was called on to perform; if such work was improper or unfit for a woman in her condition, then I should consider the manager of the estate highly culpable; but if, on the contrary, the work was fair and reasonable, such as she was capable of performing with ease to herself, I did not see that any blame could be attached to any one. Mr. Scoble agreed in this view of the case; when, therefore, he learnt that Celia had been engaged in very light work, such as weeding the dam with hoe, which Mr. S. himself acknowledged was work she was capable of performing, it would have been more candid and just in him to have said no more on that subject. Mr. Scoble attended daily at my office whilst in Berbice. On one occasion he stated that the amount of labour at that time exacted from the labourers was greater than ever was given to the people when they were in a state of slavery. This I denied, and engaged to prove that he was misinformed. I made a point of asking every apprenticed labourer that came to my office what quantity of work was expected, indeed exacted, from them formerly; and in every instance showed that on the 1st of August 1834, the work was reduced one-sixth, without regard to tariff. I obtained evidence from at least fifteen estates in this district on this point, yet Mr. Scoble persisted in his assertion, "that the work was heavier now than formerly." I would only add, that when Mr. Scoble refused to submit certain cases to his Excellency the Governor, I called upon him to publish them in this colony, and that I would pay the expense of publication, and would afterwards prosecute him for a libel. I need hardly say he objected to this proposal.

I told him I feared no inquiry being made into my conduct as a magistrate; that I had always acted in accordance with the oath I had taken, without fear, favour or partiality; and that I felt satisfied that in this district the apprenticed labourers had every thing they were by law entitled to.

I think it but justice to myself to make these few remarks, and am, sir,

Yours, &c.

(signed) *J. M'Leod*, s. j., K. District.

— No. 114. —

(No. 266.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart.

Sir,

Downing-street, 1 November 1837.

No. 114.

I HAVE received your despatches (No. 363 and 367) of the 8th and 14th of August, further on the subject of the proceedings of Mr. Scoble, who, as reported in your despatch (No. 300) of the 7th of April last, had visited British Guiana for the purpose of personally investigating the working of the apprenticeship system in that colony. I have read these despatches, and the remarks and documents enclosed in them, with very great satisfaction, and I have to convey to you my entire approval of the line of conduct which you pursued, both in the unqualified facilities which you afforded Mr. Scoble in aid of his researches, and in the manner in which you dealt with the communications addressed to you by that gentleman. Your course of proceeding appears to me to have been just, temperate and judicious, and calculated alike to dispel suspicion on the part of those who regard the apprenticeship as oppressive to the negroes, and to place on a sound and proper footing the reputation of the Colonial Society. The promptitude with which you investigated every circumstance alleged by Mr. Scoble which seemed to demand inquiry has been attended with the twofold benefit of correcting without delay what was susceptible of immediate amendment, and of furnishing true information on various points on which Mr. Scoble's statements, founded on partial evidence or the result of superficial inquiry, would, if unexplained, have tended to produce very erroneous impressions. It must be highly gratifying to you to find the results of your labours in the superintendence of the great change which has been effected in the colonial system placed in so clear and satisfactory a light as they appear to me to be in the documents now before me. That a perfect system could at once have been established and enforced in substitution for that which existed for so long a series of years was not, indeed, to be expected by any man of common sense and ordinary acquaintance with human nature. It is no matter of surprise that evils of great inveteracy and malignity should have left some traces of their former existence, and that in British Guiana, as elsewhere, the authority of the law and the administration of justice should not have been in every instance effective and impeccable. I confess, however, that I derive from a review of these papers, as well as from other sources of information, the strongest conviction that, even during the comparatively short period which has hitherto elapsed since the operation of the new law, benefits of no ordinary character, and fully equal to any reasonable anticipations, have been realized in the colony under your government. I am also confirmed in the assurance that nothing is wanting on your part to give full effect to the intentions of the British Legislature in the abolition of slavery, with a just and correct view of what is really conducive to the permanent interests of all classes of the society at the head of which you are placed.

There are several facts and suggestions brought under my notice in the enclosures to your present despatches, which, had they been submitted to me under other circumstances, I should have felt it my duty distinctly to notice, and I may have occasion, as has already been the case, to advert to some of them in separate despatches, but here I do not think this necessary. It is for the present enough that your attention has been pointedly directed to them, and that the most important are either reserved for further consideration, or have been immediately met by those means which you think the most available to remedy existing defects.

Your experience and local information as well as the spirit which has uniformly characterized your administration, induced me to place full confidence in the judgment and discretion with which you will continue to watch over the working of the present system, and to prepare for the safe and satisfactory accomplishment of the unqualified emancipation which is now rapidly approaching.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

REGULATIONS relative to the SUPPLY of FARINACEOUS FOOD.

— No. 115. —

(No. 304.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 115.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 23 April 1837.

THE great mass of the labouring population of this colony are fed upon plantains and salt fish. The planters are, however, at liberty to substitute other farinaceous food for the plantains; and on estates where plantains are not cultivated, corn-meal, made from Indian corn, and imported from America, is occasionally issued to the labourers. Some disputes having taken place on a plantation called the John and Cove, relative to the quantity of corn-meal offered to the apprenticed labourers, and which was asserted by the latter to be inadequate to their sustenance, I referred to the existing tariff, and found that 10 pints of corn-meal was the whole amount of the weekly allowance of farinaceous food for a stout labouring man. This tariff was issued and established, by proclamation, by Major-general Sir Benjamin D'Urban. The order in council of the 2d November 1831, fixes 21 pints of corn-meal as the weekly allowance of that species of food when plantains are not issued. I cannot account for such a very important discrepancy between the order in council and the proclamation issued for the purpose of carrying the details of that order into effect, otherwise than by adverting to the fact of plantains being the usual food. The amount or quantity of those articles authorized to be issued as succedaneums had not been carefully examined. I have, however, felt it my duty forthwith to remedy this oversight; and I take the liberty of laying before your Lordship a copy of a proclamation which I drew up and caused to be promulgated, with the least possible delay, as soon as I became aware of the circumstances.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth*.

Enclosure 1, in No. 115.

PROCLAMATION.

J. CARMICHAEL SMYTH, British Guiana.

(L. S.)

Encl. 1, in No. 115.

By his Excellency Major-general Sir *James Carmichael Smyth*, Baronet, Companion of the most honourable the Military Order of the Bath, Knight Commander of the Royal Order of Hanover, Knight of the Austrian Imperial Order of Maria Theresa, Knight of the Russian Imperial Order of St. Wladimir, Governor and Commander-in-chief in and over the Colony of British Guiana, Vice-Admiral and Ordinary of the same, &c. &c. &c.

WHEREAS in the fifth regulation of the 88th clause of the order in council of the King's most Excellent Majesty, dated the 2d November 1831, it is ordered and directed, that every slave above the age of 10 years shall receive in each week 21 pints of wheat-flour, or of the flour or meal of Guinea, or Indian corn, as a substitute for plantains, cocoas or yams: And whereas by the sixth regulation of the same clause, the Governor of this colony is empowered to authorize from time to time, by proclamations to be by him for that purpose issued, the substitution for the provisions aforesaid of any other provisions equivalent to and equally nutritious with the same: And whereas his Excellency Major-general Sir Benjamin D'Urban, late Governor of British Guiana, did issue a proclamation upon the 18th January 1833, to which a schedule of allowances for food is attached, and in which schedule 25 lbs. of yams or potatoes, or 20 lbs. of eddoes or tanyas, or 10 pints of wheat-flour, or 10 pints of Indian corn-meal, or 10 pints of rice, are declared to be the proportions of other farinaceous food which may be substituted for the allowance of 70 lbs. of plantains: And whereas in the 120th clause of the order in council, as already quoted, it is ordered and declared, that no law, statute, ordinance or proclamation now or at any time heretofore in force in this colony, or which shall hereafter, by any governor or local legislature of the colony, be made, enacted, ordained or promulgated (in as far as the same may or shall be in anywise repugnant to or inconsistent with the said order in council) shall be binding on his Majesty's subjects in such colony, or be of any force, virtue or effect therein; or shall be recognized as legal or valid by any court, judge or magistrate within this colony:

And

And whereas the substitution aforesaid, by reason of the diminished quantity, is repugnant to the provisions of the said order in council, and of no force or effect: And whereas by the 11th clause of the Act of the Imperial Parliament, 3 & 4 Will. IV. c. 73, intituled, "An Act for the Abolition of Slavery throughout the British Colonies," it is enacted, that during the continuance of the apprenticeship of the labourers therein referred to, they shall be entitled to such food, clothing, lodging and medical attendance, and such other maintenance and allowances as by any law then in force in the colonies the owner of any slave was bound to supply and furnish:

I do hereby, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by his Majesty, under the sixth regulation of the 88th clause of the order in council of the 2d November 1831, and which authority is again specially renewed as regards the apprenticed labourers, under the sixth regulation of the first section of chapter the third of ordinance 43, authorize and direct (whenever it may not be convenient for the employer of an apprenticed labourer to issue the weekly allowance of 70 lbs. weight of plantains to each labourer) the substitution of not less than 56 lbs. of yams or potatoes, or cocoas, or eddoes, or tanyas; or 21 pints of wheat-flour, or of Indian corn-meal, or of rice, in lieu of the plantains.

Given under my hand and seal of office, at the Guiana Public Buildings, in George Town, Demerara, British Guiana, this 24th day of April 1837, and in the seventh year of his Majesty's reign.

God save the KING.

By his Excellency's command,

(signed) *H. E. F. Young,*
Government Secretary.

—No. 116.—

(No. 310.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 29 April 1837.

No. 116.

WITH reference to the despatch of the 23d instant, No. 304, which I had the honour to address to your Lordship, and to the proclamation therein contained, I have the honour to state to your Lordship, that having been waited upon by a deputation or committee of respectable proprietors and attorneys, I have been induced, in consequence of the very many difficulties which these gentlemen stated would be experienced if the regulations prescribed in the proclamation were forthwith carried into effect, to suspend its operation for six months. I have not arrived at the conclusion of suspending the operation of the proclamation without some regret; as, in the mean while, those labourers whose employers issue to them a weekly allowance of only 10 pints of Indian corn-meal are receiving a very inadequate supply of food. I beg to lay before your Lordship a copy of my reply to the gentlemen forming the deputation, a perusal of which will place your Lordship completely in possession of the arguments and of the motives which have influenced my conduct.

(A.)

As the principal objection to the augmentation of the quantity of those articles of farinaceous food which the employers are at liberty to substitute for plantains is the additional expense thereby entailed upon the estates to which the labourers are attached, as stated to me by the gentlemen composing the deputation, I have thought it my duty to lay before your Lordship the five enclosed calculations, showing the expense of feeding an able-bodied labourer, according to the average prices of last year for twelve months; 1st, upon plantains and salt fish, three pounds; 2dly, upon a weekly allowance of 21 pints of corn-meal and three pounds of salt fish; 3dly, upon a weekly allowance of 21 pints of rice and three pounds of salt fish; 4th, upon a weekly allowance of only 10 pints of corn-meal and three pounds of salt fish; and 5thly, upon a weekly allowance of only 10 pints of rice and three pounds of salt fish. Your Lordship will easily, from these documents, form your own opinion as to whether the amount of the additional expense is of a nature to affect the consideration of a question of such overwhelming importance to the well-being of the labouring population.

(B.)

Your Lordship will, I feel confident, deplore with me that the former Dutch system, by which the proprietors of estates were compelled to have a certain extent of ground in cultivation as a plantain walk or as provision grounds, has, by degrees, been done away with. The high price of sugar and other articles of produce has induced the planter to purchase imported provisions, and to apply all his labour towards raising those things only from which an immediate profit was to be expected. If it is intended that this province should continue to flourish,

BRITISH GUIANA.

and that the character of her labouring population should be that of steady, peaceable and moral people, this error must be rectified. It will be very advisable, I respectfully submit to your Lordship, that, in regulating the nature of the future transactions between the employer and the labourer, on and after the 1st August 1840, a cottage with a piece of land attached to it, together with sufficient time to cultivate the same, should be insisted upon as the basis of all agricultural agreements.

I take the liberty of respectfully stating to your Lordship, that if the regulations as contained in my proclamation of the 24th instant should meet with his Majesty's gracious approbation, it will be necessary, in compliance with the enactment upon that subject, contained in his Majesty's order in council of the 6th November 1832, that his Majesty's confirmation of the same should be communicated to me.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth.*

Enclosures in No. 116.

(A.)

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

Encl. in No. 116.

(A.)

THE following letter, addressed by his Excellency the Governor to a deputation of gentlemen who waited upon him, with reference to his Excellency's proclamation of the 24th instant, is published for general information.

By his Excellency's command,

(signed)

H. E. F. Young, Government Secretary

Guiana Public Buildings, 29 April 1837.

Gentlemen,

Camp House, Demerara, 29 April 1837.

I HAVE listened with attention to every thing you have had to object to the measure I have felt it my duty to adopt, with respect to the augmentation of the quantity of those articles of food which you are at liberty to substitute for plantains. I now beg to request your consideration of the following observations :

I.

The allowance of plantains and of salt fish is ample. The best friend to the labourer cannot wish to see it augmented. I refer you to the fifth paragraph of my instructions to the special justices of this province, dated the 1st August 1834, as to my opinion upon the subject ; and as a proof of my unwillingness to entertain complaints so long as the labourer himself is satisfied. My expressions in the instructions alluded to are as follow :—

“ 5.—The weekly allowance of salt fish and of plantains has been represented to me by several gentlemen, whose honour and veracity I can depend upon, as being more than is required by a labouring man ; and it has been stated to me that it is the general custom to issue not more than two pounds of salt fish and fifty-six pounds of plantains per week, and to make up to the labourer the value of the difference with sugar, rum, tobacco, and other extra articles not mentioned in the tariff. To any amicable arrangement of this sort I can have no objection, provided the labourer is satisfied. If, on any estate, there should be any complaints on the part of the apprenticed labourers as to an insufficiency of food, or in any way connected with the subject of their provisions, it will be your duty to enforce the tariff with the utmost punctuality. On the other hand, it is a very material object, and one quite in unison with that good feeling between the landlord and the labourer which I feel it my duty by every means in my power to encourage, that the latter should feel that his comforts and his happiness will very much depend upon his own good conduct and upon the approbation of his employer. I wish that the apprenticed labourer should always be instructed to complain to his employer in the first instance, and not be encouraged to apply to the special justice, excepting it is of his employer himself he has to complain, or that he cannot otherwise obtain redress.”

II.

I need not point out to you, gentlemen, that the cultivation of plantains and of provisions for the labourers has of late considerably and rapidly diminished. The excellent and prudent Dutch regulation, by which every estate was obliged to have provision grounds in the proportion of one acre to every five persons, has become a dead letter. The periodical visits and reports of the burgher officers to ascertain that the foregoing regulation was complied with have been discontinued. The fines levied by order of the court of policy upon defaulters have not been heard of for some time. The profits to be derived from the cultivation of sugar and other colonial produce have induced the planters in general to apply all disposable labour towards the production of those articles which afford the greatest

returns ;

returns; and the anomaly has arisen (and, if not checked in time, will reach a still greater height), that in a country where every necessary for the subsistence of man can be raised with the least possible trouble, the labouring class have, in a great measure, to depend for their subsistence upon corn, meal and rice imported from other countries. No less quantities than 951,024 lbs. of Indian corn-meal, and 3,945,396 lbs. of rice, were imported into the river Demerara during the year 1836; and if we may judge by the quantity of these articles of provision imported from 1st January to 31st March last, the importation during the present year will be at least threefold of that of last year.

III.

Under the circumstances I have depicted, and in consequence of complaints and representations having been made to me of the insufficiency of the quantity of food issued to the labourers in lieu of the plantains (the allowance of which, as I have before said, is ample), it became my duty to look carefully into the subject, and to ascertain whether the issues of other articles of farinaceous food, allowed by his Majesty's order in council of the 2d November 1831 to be substituted for plantains, accorded with the spirit of that order. In Sir Benjamin D'Urban's proclamation of the 18th January 1833, issued to carry into effect the details of that and the subsequent order of the 6th November 1832, I find 10 pints of flour of wheat substituted for 21, 10 pints of Indian corn-meal for 21, and 10 pints of rice ordered as a succedaneum for 70 lbs. of plantains. It must have been under the impression that plantains were to be the permanent ration, and that the issuing of the imported articles of a farinaceous nature in lieu thereof was to be a temporary or occasional measure, only to be resorted to in the event of a failure or dearth of the plantain crops, that my estimable predecessor could have affixed his name to such a diminished tariff. I have felt, however, that it was impossible for me to sanction the continuance of a state of things not only at variance with the spirit of the several orders in council, but calculated, in my view of the subject, to injure the permanent interest of the province.

IV.

The only three articles which, in my proclamation of the 24th instant, I have caused to be augmented in quantity, to which it will be necessary for me to draw your attention, are, first, wheat flour; secondly, Indian corn-meal; and thirdly, rice. When these articles are issued, they must be purchased from the importers; and, consequently, any augmentation to the quantity of each or either of these articles of farinaceous food issued per week to the labourer adds to the expenditure, and in so much diminishes the profit of the estate.

V.

With respect to the wheat-flour, you, gentlemen, know full well, that the labourer of British Guiana is not acquainted with even the taste of wheat-flour; and that it is perfectly immaterial to him and to you, whether the words twenty-one pints of wheat-flour, as found in the order in council of the 2d November 1831, or ten pints of wheat-flour, as specified in Schedule (A.) attached to Sir Benjamin D'Urban's proclamation of the 18th January 1833, are considered valid. You never have purchased a cask of flour, for the purpose of issuing the same, to the apprenticed labourer.

VI.

The next article proposed as a substitute for plantains is Indian corn-meal. On the subject of Indian corn, I can speak with more confidence and experience than perhaps any planter in this colony. It is the constant food issued to the labouring class in the Bahama islands. The weekly allowance is 16 pints of Indian corn, and which, when passed through the mill, gives to each individual about 21 pints of good farinaceous food, or at the rate of three pints per day. I cannot comprehend how, as the Bahama labourer requires the quantity I have alluded to, and which is cheerfully given by the poor Bahama planter, it can be imagined, in this wealthy colony, that an allowance of Indian corn-meal, not amounting to a pint and a half per day, could afford sufficient nourishment for a strong labouring man. The order in council has, in my opinion, very judiciously fixed the quantity of Indian corn-meal at 21 pints per week, or three pints per day. It is impossible for me to sanction any diminution from this quantity.

VII.

The article of rice is not mentioned in the order in council. Sir Benjamin D'Urban, in his tariff, places, however, 10 pints of rice as equal to 10 pints of Indian corn-meal, and having shown you that three pints of the latter are required for the daily subsistence of a labourer, I consequently assume that he will require the same quantity of the former.

VIII.

With respect to my authority to issue the proclamation of the 24th instant, and with which you appear to be unacquainted, it is only necessary to observe to you that the order in council of the 2d November 1831, establishes a certain scale of provisions, and authorizes the Governor to issue, from time to time, proclamations directing the substitution for the provisions aforesaid of any other provisions equivalent to and equally nutritious with the same. The authority thus given to the Governor is very considerably enlarged by the subsequent order in council of the 6th November 1832; it being declared in the said order in council lawful for the Governor, by any proclamation to be by him issued, from time to time to

BRITISH GUIANA. suspend so much and such parts of the order in council of the 2d November 1831 as shall appear inapplicable to the state and condition of the said colony, and to establish such other rules and regulations as shall to such Governor appear to be more compatible with the interests of all parties, &c. The Act abolishing slavery was passed upon the 28th August 1833; and in the 11th clause of that Act, it is enacted that during the continuance of any such apprenticeship as aforesaid, the person or persons for the time being entitled to the services of every such apprenticed labourer shall be bound, and is and are hereby required to supply him or her with such food, clothing, lodging, medicine, medical attendance, and such other maintenance and allowance as by any law now in force in the colony to which such apprenticed labourer may belong an owner is required to supply to and for any slave being of the same age and sex as such apprenticed labourer shall be. At the period at which this Act of the Imperial Parliament was passed, the order in council of the 6th November 1832 was the only law in force regulating the food, &c. of the slave in British Guiana; and as by that law the power was vested in the Governor of making such regulations upon these subjects as to him might appear proper, establishing the same by proclamation to be by him issued from time to time, it follows that my proclamation of the 24th instant is, consequently, in strict conformity to the power vested in me by the order in council of the 6th November 1832, and which power is rendered permanent until the 1st August 1840, by the Act of the Imperial Parliament. The confirmation by his Majesty of the tariff promulgated by Sir Benjamin D'Urban, in preference to one upon a more reduced scale proposed by the court of policy, to be attached to ordinance 43, and to the impropriety of which I, at the time, drew the attention of his Majesty's Government, after having stated to the court of policy that I should so do, in no way militates against the power vested in the Governor, by his Majesty by his order in council of the 6th November 1832, of establishing such rules and regulations upon the subject of the food of the labourer as from time to time may to him appear to be requisite; subject, of course, as more particularly stated in the order itself, to the approbation or disallowance of his Majesty.

IX.

In conclusion, I have now, gentlemen, to acquaint you, that although I have not the smallest doubt with respect to the propriety, policy and legality of my proceeding, yet I am willing, in consequence of the statements you have made to me, to suspend the operation of the proclamation for a period of six months, in order to enable you to be better prepared, at the end of that period, to provide the additional quantity of farinaceous food you will have to supply to your labourers (when plantains are not issued), either by reverting to the old system of cultivating an ample extent of provision grounds upon account of the estate, or by giving to the labourer land, and allowing him the legal time required to cultivate the same, or by taking the necessary measures to ensure a larger importation of rice and Indian corn-meal. I am in hopes that the larger quantities of those articles of imported food which will hereafter be required for the weekly allowance of the labourer will induce proprietors not only to pause before they still further abandon the cultivation of provision grounds, but may be the means of introducing into general use the allowing of sufficient time to the labourer to cultivate his own ground, a system by which his attachment to the estate from which he may receive his subsistence can alone, in my opinion, be permanently secured.

I am, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth.*

(True copy.) *H. E. F. Young*, Gov. Secretary.

To M. M'Turk, G. Fullarton and J. Lane, Esquires.

PROCLAMATION.

J. C. SMYTH, British Guiana.

(L. S.)

By his Excellency Major-general Sir *James Carmichael Smyth*, Baronet, Companion of the most honourable the Military Order of the Bath, Knight Commander of the Royal Order of Hanover, Knight of the Austrian Imperial Order of Maria Theresa, Knight of the Russian Imperial Order of St. Wladimir, Governor and Commander-in-chief in and over the Colony of British Guiana, Vice-Admiral and Ordinary of the same, &c. &c. &c.

WHEREAS it has been represented to me, by several very respectable proprietors and attornies of estates, that from the small quantities of rice and of corn-meal in hand, and the diminished extent of the plantain and provision cultivation upon the estates, it will be very inconvenient and difficult to carry forthwith the alterations with respect to the food of the labourers, as directed in my proclamation of the 24th instant, into effect: Now, having taken the aforesaid representations into my most serious consideration, and being duly impressed with the necessity of equally attending to the wants and interests of all parties, I do hereby, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by his Majesty, by his order

in council of the 6th November 1832, which order in council is rendered permanent until the 1st August 1840, by the Act of the Imperial Parliament for the Abolition of Slavery, suspend the operation of my proclamation as aforesaid for a period of six months; that is to say, until the 1st November of the present year; upon and from which day the additional quantities as therein detailed, of either yams, potatoes, cocoas, eddoes, tanyas, wheat-flour, Indian corn-meal, or of rice, at the option of the employer, will have to be issued to the labourer, instead of the legal allowance of plantains.

Given under my hand and seal of office, at the Guiana Public Buildings, in George Town, Demerara, this 29th day of April 1837, and in the seventh year of his Majesty's reign.

God save the KING.

By his Excellency's command,
(signed) *H. E. F. Young,*

Government Secretary.

(True copy.) *H. E. F. Young,*
Government Secretary.

(B.)

STATEMENT showing the average yearly Expense of feeding a Labourer in *British Guiana*, according to the following proportions of Rations.

(B.)

WEEKLY ALLOWANCE.			EXPENSE PER ANNUM.		
No. 1.	Showing the Rations of last year.		<i>Guil. Stiv.</i>	<i>£. s. d.</i>	
	2 bunches of plantains, at 13½ stivers per bunch	- }	89	-	6 7 2
	3 lbs. of salt fish, at 2¼ stivers per lb.	- - }			
No. 2.	21 pints of corn-meal, at 2½ stivers per pint	- - }	140	7	10 6 -
	3 lbs. of salt fish, at 2¼ stivers per lb.	- - }			
No. 3.	21 pints of rice, at 3 stivers per pint	- - - }	181	6	12 19 -
	3 lbs. of salt fish, at 2¼ stivers per lb.	- - - }			
No. 4.	10 pints of corn-meal, at 2½ stivers per pint	- - }	76	-	5 8 7
	3 lbs. of salt fish, at 2¼ stivers per lb.	- - }			
No. 5.	10 pints of rice, at 3 stivers per pint	- - - }	95	10	6 16 5
	3 lbs. of salt fish, at 2¼ stivers per lb.	- - - }			

— No. 117. —

(No. 319.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenely*.

My Lord, Camp House, Demerara, 13 May 1837.

IN the despatch of the 25th ultimo, No. 310, which I had the honour to address to your Lordship, I submitted for your Lordship's perusal, and, as I hope, for your approbation, a copy of a letter I wrote to a committee of gentlemen, who waited upon me relative to the augmented quantity of corn-meal I have directed to be issued to the apprenticed labourers whenever their employers may think proper to have recourse to that species of food as a substitute for plantains. I was in hopes that the facts and the arguments stated and urged in that letter would have been conclusive, and that, until his Majesty's pleasure could be made known, I should not have received any further representations upon the subject. These gentlemen, however, do not appear to be satisfied either as to the propriety or as to the legality of the measure I have felt it my duty to adopt; and they have forwarded to me the accompanying documents for transmission to your Lordship.

I was in hopes that, at this time of day, every person connected with this colony and interested in apprenticed labour would have been aware of the impolicy of agitating such a subject as the minimum of corn-meal with which an apprenticed labourer can be fed. Of the propriety of issuing the ration I have

No. 117.

BRITISH GUIANA. directed, I humbly conceive, there can be no doubt. With respect to the legality of my conduct, and the authority vested in me to issue the proclamation I have done, I can only refer your Lordship to the eighth paragraph of my letter to the gentlemen in question; a duplicate of which, for the convenience of reference, is forwarded with this despatch. As, however, Messrs. M'Turk, Fullarton and Lane have thought proper to submit to your Lordship the opinions of three gentlemen of the colonial bar, I have deemed it my duty to lay before your Lordship that of the Attorney-general, which is so clear and decided as to preclude the possibility of mistake.

(B.)

(C.)

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth.*

Enclosures in No. 117.

(A.)

To Sir *James Carmichael Smyth*, Bart., K. C. B., Governor of the Colony of British Guiana.

Encl. in No. 117.

Sir,

Your Excellency having been pleased to inform us that you were prepared to receive, and to transmit to the proper quarter, such observations as we might consider it our duty to offer, in regard to the communication addressed to us by your Excellency on the 29th of April, we have now the honour of submitting the views which have presented themselves to our minds with reference to that communication, and to the proclamation by your Excellency, by which it was preceded.

In the following observations we shall take leave to observe the order of the communication of the 29th of April, most respectfully requesting your Excellency to understand, that the authority of these remarks entirely depends upon the personal convictions resulting from our own experience, and that we do not consider ourselves as limiting or representing, in any manner of way, the feelings or opinions of any other parties.

I.

Your Excellency has stated that the allowance of plantains and of salt fish now supplied to the apprenticed labourers of British Guiana is ample, and that no friend of such labourers can desire to see this allowance augmented.

In the propriety of this opinion we most humbly and heartily concur. If, however, it be meant by your Excellency that any inference is in consequence to arise unfavourable to the equal sufficiency of the other provisions which may now, by law, be delivered in lieu of plantains, we are satisfied that such inference would be entirely erroneous.

When the schedule of Sir Benjamin D'Urban, which forms the existing scale of allowances in this colony, was in the course of preparation, we have reason to know that it was the earnest desire, as it was the obvious duty, of that able and excellent person so to regulate the enactments as to ensure the various classes of supplies to be furnished to the negro, being as nearly as possible equivalent to plantains and to each other.

That the regulations of this schedule were equal in themselves, as well as in every respect adapted to the wants of the labourer, we must hold to be established by the circumstance, that from the issuing of the proclamation of the 18th of January 1833 down to the present hour, we are not aware of a single allegation of the inadequacy of any allowance thereby provided having proceeded from any slave, or from any apprenticed labourer, within the wide extent of British Guiana.

Of the practical operation of the scale of Sir Benjamin D'Urban, we, as individuals, have had an experience of more than four years, extending over a series of estates administered under our immediate superintendence, comprising a large proportion of the cultivation of this colony, and comprehending upwards of 8,000 apprenticed labourers, not one of whom has ever insinuated to us the existence of any hardship or insufficiency connected with his legal allowance, whether delivered to him in plantains, or in any separate form of supply, permitted by law to represent that article of subsistence.

In a recent proceeding at plantation "John and Cove," your Excellency is aware that the complaint by the apprenticed labourer, "Rose Ann," did not allege the inadequacy of the legal allowance, but averred that the legal allowance had not been properly served upon the estate. The charge, as embodied in the words of the petition, is thus stated: "That the allowance is very ill-served out on said estate; and, in fact, that for four days in the Easter week they were without their due allowance, and still the daily labour was exacted and performed by them." In the case, therefore, of the complainants of "John and Cove," obviously in no degree disposed to slumber upon their sufferings, no shadow of imputation was cast upon the amount of the allowance itself. It was solely the non-delivery of the "due allowance" that was made the occasion of that clamorous, and, as it proved, most groundless petition.

The propriety of the fifth article of the instructions to the special justices of this colony, issued by your Excellency on the 1st of August 1834, and introduced into the communication of the 29th of April, we are disposed most cheerfully to admit. It would have been well were we also enabled to express our belief, that these wise and wholesome injunctions have had a due or general effect.

II. In

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BRITISH GUIANA

In so far as we are in possession of the means of information, we are unable to concede to your Excellency that any great or general neglect has occurred in the cultivation of plantains. Instances may, doubtless, be enumerated in which the higher attraction of a sugar-crop may have diverted the labour of the estate from the plantain-walk towards the boiling-house; but the chief occasion of the deficiency in plantains appears to be far more deeply-seated, and, unhappily, to be far less susceptible of remedy than your Excellency has hitherto been made aware. For a series of years, a distemper, of a most destructive character, has been extending itself among the plantain grounds of British Guiana. In a colony throughout which the cultivation of plantains had previously been attended with almost certain success, so fatal have been the results of this disorder, that a variety of estates, at one time calculated to produce very large disposable crops, are not now in a situation to provide for their own allowances. The cause and the cure of this vegetable malady are equally unknown. A large reward offered by the court of policy has entirely failed in establishing a remedy. In this situation, it is not unlikely that in certain instances a less than usual anxiety may have been displayed with reference to a crop now become precarious; but very opposite cases are within our knowledge, in which, with a rapidly diminishing production, the labour bestowed upon the plantain grounds has been materially increased.

We are, however, unable to perceive the justice or the expediency of holding it incumbent upon the proprietor of an estate in this colony to keep up the cultivation of plantains, or of any other crop whatever, notwithstanding of a separate and more profitable demand for his apprenticed labour. In the present condition of British Guiana, it is obvious that the supply by importation, so long as it shall be fostered by a steady demand, cannot be said to be less certain or less convenient, while it is frequently far less expensive, than by a home production. In the midst of a profound peace, it would be hard, we think, to insist on maintaining the restrictions applicable, if applicable at all, only to a season of strict blockade.

Whatever may have been the original importance of the Dutch regulations referred to, with approbation, by your Excellency, it is certain that there is now no rule having the force of law in this colony by which the cultivation of a certain extent of provision ground is made compulsory upon the proprietor of an estate. Any attempt to restore such regulations would necessarily be resisted as an invasion of the rights of ownership, and a great impediment to the free and profitable employment of the land. At the same time, it would, perhaps, have been more intelligible, if the production of plantains is really to be made imperative upon this colony, had the object been attempted by a positive regulation of your Excellency, rather than the imposition of irregular and apparently invidious burthens upon supplies of a different description.

III.

Your Excellency has been pleased to inform us, that complaints and representations have been made to you of the insufficiency of the quantity of the allowances issued in this colony to the apprenticed labourers in lieu of plantains. In what fell from your Excellency at our recent interviews, we did not understand it to be said that these complaints or representations had proceeded, directly or indirectly, from the apprenticed labourers themselves, who have, for four years and a half, been receiving the quantities now pretended to be insufficient. Who, then, we venture to inquire, are the lurking informants, hostile alike to the interests of this colony and to the true credit of your Excellency, who have most presumptuously, as well as most falsely, represented that the food, in the enjoyment of which the negro has for so long a time lived in sleek and uncomplaining comfort, is nevertheless inadequate, in the proportion of upwards of one-half, to the common necessities of his nature?

Your Excellency has further stated, that in consequence of the complaints so made, you have felt it to be your duty carefully to ascertain whether the issues of farinaceous food, now substituted for plantains, are in accordance with the spirit of the order of the King in council of 2d November 1831. A slight regard, however, to the history of this order will, we think, be sufficient to establish that the existing scale of allowances in British Guiana is quite as independent of the provisions of the enactment of 1831 as if these provisions had never been heard of in this colony.

When information of the terms of the order in council of November 1831 first arrived in this colony, a most serious alarm for the consequences was excited throughout the length and breadth of the land. It is impossible, indeed, to doubt that many, if not most, of the provisions of that order had been framed in utter ignorance of the peculiar situation of British Guiana, and that any attempt to enforce them against this community must have been attended with the most imminent peril to the very existence of the colony.

In these circumstances, a humble memorial was presented to the predecessor of your Excellency, by "the colonial members" of the court of policy, in which there appear these earnest and memorable expressions: "From the nature of this order in council, we are impressed with a firm conviction, that if its publication does take place, the utter ruin and desolation of this colony, already suffering under the severest calamities, will be consummated. As members of the court of policy, called upon by our duty to the colonists at large, and as the only hope to which they now cling, to avert this fatal measure, we, in behalf of the colony, implore your Excellency to stay the publication of the said order in council, that we may have an opportunity of demonstrating to his Majesty its ruinous tendency to every interest of this community."

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The instructions of his Excellency being peremptory, this most affecting memorial necessarily failed in averting the so much dreaded publication. A solemn declaration was thereupon prepared by "the colonial members," exposing, with much ability, the mischievous character of the order of 1831; and being delivered in to Sir Benjamin D'Urban, at a meeting of the court of policy, was by him transmitted, in a favourable manner, to his Majesty's Government. The regulations, with reference to food, contained in the 88th section of the order in council, are thus observed upon at page 9 of that "declaration:"

"The quantity of flour, corn-meal or yams specified in this clause is far beyond what any human being can consume; and although Lord Goderich quotes the gaol regulations of Jamaica in justification of the order, we cannot help coming to the conclusion, that some mistake has arisen in the matter; perhaps this excessive quantity was intended to afford the gaoler a perquisite of office, for it cannot be accounted for on any other rational ground. If flour was given in lieu of plantains in the quantity specified, it would take nearly the whole of the net proceeds of the produce of British Guiana to pay for it, as will be made obvious by the calculations given in the appendix. The planters have no objection to fix a fair and full allowance of provisions for their slaves, but they contend that the scale specified in this clause is enormous and the quantity cannot possibly be consumed by the negro."

The remonstrances thus wrung from the agony of British Guiana received, as they surely merited, the immediate and anxious attention of his Majesty's Government. It was speedily discovered by the parties least disposed to bestow their indulgence upon the planters, that the order of the 2d of November 1831 could not possibly be maintained; and although, for reasons of policy, it was not held to be expedient that the express recall or alteration of the obnoxious enactments should be pronounced by the Government itself, an order in council did issue upon the 6th of November 1832, with the view of substantially conceding the just requests which had been submitted on the part of this colony. That the objections set forth by the colonial members to the allowance of food proposed to be delivered to the negro, by the order of 1831, had attracted a principal degree of the notice of his Majesty's Government is obvious from the fact, that the remedial order of the 6th of November 1832 actually begins with enumerating the regulations, in reference to food, as standing at the very head of the erroneous provisions of the order of 1831. It is thereafter said: "Whereas it has been represented to his Majesty, that some of the several regulations aforesaid cannot be enforced in the said colonies without great prejudice to the slaves therein, nor without ruinous loss to the owners of such slaves, and that other regulations might be established in the said respective colonies for securing to the slaves therein an adequate supply of food, clothing and household furniture, more compatible with the interests of the owners of such slaves, and equally conducive to the benefit of the slaves themselves." It was thereupon provided, that the Governors of the said colonies, being such as were subjected to the legislative authority of the King in council, should have, by proclamations to be from time to time issued, a power "to suspend so much and such parts of the before-mentioned order in council relating to the several measures aforesaid, or any of them, as to such respective Governors shall appear inapplicable to the state and condition of the said respective colonies; and, by such proclamations, to establish such other rules and regulations respecting the several measures aforesaid, or any of them, as shall to such respective Governors appear to be more compatible with the interests of the owners of the slaves therein, and better adapted for securing to such slaves an adequate supply of food, clothing and household furniture."

If there be meaning in the language of a royal order in council, we cannot doubt that the intent of this enactment was not to support and enforce the scale of allowances contained in the order of 1831, or even to render that scale susceptible of renewal or restoration at any after period; but, on the contrary, to admit the force of the objections stated to that scale in the "declaration" of the colonial members almost in the very words of that document itself. The scale in question is referred to as ruinous to, and incompatible with, the true interests of master as well as slave. A power is then conferred upon the Governor not to exact or enforce its provisions, but to suspend and annul them,—a power, the granting of which under such circumstances we can hardly be mistaken in holding to be tantamount to an express injunction to exercise it.

Accordingly, upon the 18th day of January 1833, Sir Benjamin D'Urban, not only under the authority of the order by the King in council of 6th November 1832, but as we have shown your Excellency, in obedience thereto, issued a proclamation with reference to the grievances admitted to exist under the order of the 2d of November 1831. Following the example of the order of 1832, his Excellency proceeded, in the first place, to order and direct: "That the fifth regulation of the 88th clause of his Majesty's order in council, bearing date the 2d of November 1831, relating to the allowance of provisions to be supplied to slaves, shall be and the same is hereby suspended; and that, in lieu thereof, every manager who shall, by such declaration as is therein referred to, propose to maintain his slaves by an allowance of provisions, shall be and he is hereby bound and required to supply such provisions to the amount and of the kinds set forth in the schedule marked (A.) hereunto annexed." This proclamation, having been duly transmitted to his Majesty in council, was maintained as the regular scale of allowances down to the passing of the Statute for the Abolition of Slavery, and was, thereafter, included, by the special authority of his Majesty, as the rule of the allowances to apprenticed labourers among the schedules set forth in the appendix to the order in council of the 5th June 1834, by which the ordinance of your Excellency and the court of policy, number 43, was amended and approved. It humbly, therefore, appears to us that the inquiry undertaken by your Excellency, as to the corre-

spondence

spondence of the proclamation by Sir Benjamin D'Urban with the spirit of the order in council of 2d November 1831, was entirely nugatory. As well might your Excellency have examined, whether any other proclamation, by any other Governor, issuing under due authority, was or was not "in the spirit" of the law proposed to be suspended. As well, indeed, might your Excellency have inquired, whether the provisions of the Abolition Act itself, by which slavery was for ever extinguished throughout the British empire, was "in the spirit" of the laws previously existing, by which the property in slaves was held to be a sacred and essential right of owners and others in this colony. And with just as much success, we venture to believe, might your Excellency have directed your proclamation against the express and enfranchising terms of that Act of Parliament, as against the schedule of allowances first published under the authority of Sir Benjamin D'Urban, but now adopted and confirmed by virtue of the very enactment which forms the great charter of freedom to the negro.

We cannot concur with your Excellency in the conjecture, that the allowances in lieu of plantains contained in the schedule of Sir Benjamin D'Urban were by him intended to be temporary and occasional. We know the fact to have been otherwise; and grievously indeed would his Excellency have betrayed his trust, if, for periods however short, recurring at intervals however long, the negro, by an ill-considered act of his administration, had been subjected to any serious privation in regard to the actual necessities of existence.

IV. V. VI. VII.

It is true, as stated by your Excellency, that the sums of money disbursed by the cultivator for flour, rice and meal in so far diminish the profits of estates. But wherein do these forms of supply differ, in expense, from the production of provisions upon the lands themselves? The diversion of labour from the ordinary cultivation of the estate appears to be quite as much a charge upon profits as the actual outlay of so much current money.

Your Excellency has been pleased to take for granted that we "know full well" that the labourers of British Guiana "are not even acquainted with the taste of wheat-flour," and that it is therefore "perfectly immaterial" to them what amount of such supply may be deemed to be sufficient. We are under the necessity of stating to your Excellency that our knowledge is precisely the other way. There is not, we believe, at this moment one working negro on any sugar, cotton or coffee estate in British Guiana who does not know, as well as we do, the qualities of the luxury imagined by your Excellency to be unknown. The appetency of the negro for "bread" is, indeed, one of the earliest peculiarities which occurs to a stranger landing upon our shores. Hardly an estate is without its negro baker. True it is that, from the proprietor, wheaten-flour is not an usual, and, owing to the difficulties of cooking it, we do not think it would be an expedient or beneficial supply. But the time has existed in Demerara when, from special circumstances, little else than wheaten-flour could be delivered to the negro. Who shall say that such a time may not come again? And can it, therefore, be correctly stated, as "perfectly immaterial" what extent of such allowance may now be declared to be the law? In regard to the absolute non-issue of wheaten-flour at the present time, your Excellency has been misled by your informants. The books of many most respectable store-keepers transacting business in George-Town would have satisfied your Excellency that, within the last twelve months, supplies of wheaten-flour have been repeatedly issued to apprenticed labourers.

In regard to the amount of allowances furnished to the labourers of the Bahamas, we certainly shall not be guilty of the presumption of placing our scanty information against the actual experience of your Excellency. But for this much, we may refer to the authority of your Excellency, that, in point of general comfort and advantage, the position of the negro of the Bahamas, whether apprenticed or not, is in no degree comparable to that of the industrious labourer of British Guiana.

It is true that rice is not an article mentioned in the order in council of 1831. How, therefore, in the act of restoring that order, your Excellency should have been led to introduce into the scale a double quantity of an article not enumerated in the order at all, we confess ourselves at a loss to understand. It is not, surely, that every thing is to be assumed, right or wrong, against the planter, and in favour of the negro. It is not, surely, that the rule of interpretation is to be that the order in council of 1831 shall be held as law wherever it presses hard upon the employer, and that the otherwise repudiated proclamation of Sir Benjamin D'Urban, of 1833, shall also be law, but only where it indicates an additional supply of which the labourer may have the benefit.

VIII.

In regard to the authority under which the proclamation of the 24th of April is said to have been issued, we shall not presume to engage in a legal controversy with your Excellency. On that head, we shall beg humbly to refer your Excellency to the "Case," and following "Opinion," herewith delivered in. Your Excellency will there perceive that, along with several parties having a weighty stake in this community, we have deemed it our duty to resort to the counsel of other individuals of whose competency and impartiality we trust there is no just doubt, and whose profession it is to afford such elucidations to the parties who may consult them. That opinion we cannot but regard as clear and conclusive; and your Excellency will not be surprised to learn that by its terms it is our purpose to abide.

Although not learned in the law, we profess, however, to have a moderate acquaintance with the circumstances under which the existing scale of allowances happens to have been maintained as the rule in British Guiana since the passing of the Abolition Act. To some

(Nos. 1 & 2.)

BRITISH GUIANA. of these circumstances we shall take leave shortly to direct the attention of your Excellency.

When the ordinance, No. 43, at first came under the consideration of the court of policy, your Excellency will remember that the scale of Sir Benjamin D'Urban was held to be over high; and a reduced schedule of allowances was accordingly appended to the early form of that ordinance, transmitted by the court for the approbation of the King in council.

We cheerfully do your Excellency the justice of admitting that, in these reduced allowances, your Excellency stated at the time that you were unable to concur. The grounds of this dissent appear to have preceded or accompanied the draft of the ordinance, No. 43, to the office of the Colonial Secretary, by whom the views suggested by your Excellency were held to be correct, and a corresponding alteration was made by the order of the King in council, of 1834, in regard to the schedule which had been prepared by the local legislature of the colony.

Among the various communications by the Government received at that period by your Excellency, we shall advert to a single document as entirely settling the question, both as to the views understood by that Government to be entertained by your Excellency in regard to the due and legal extent of the allowances, and, what is of more importance, the explanations and instructions communicated to your Excellency in regard to the colony of British Guiana, by the very parties by whom the Act of Abolition was prepared and passed. The important paper to which we allude is the despatch, No. 90, of date the 24th of May 1834, addressed to your Excellency by the Hon. E. G. Stanley (now Lord Stanley), at that time his Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonial Department.

In this despatch, Mr. Stanley observes to your Excellency, "The doubts which you appear to have entertained, as to substituting for the food, maintenance and allowances, authorized by Sir Benjamin D'Urban's proclamation of the 18th January 1833, the proposed schedules to the ordinance, marked (P.) and (Q.) were founded in a perfectly correct view of the intent of the Slavery Act."

"Under that statute, sect. 11, the employer of every labourer is required to supply him with such food and clothing and other allowances, as by any law now in force in the colony to which such labourer may belong an owner is required to supply to and for any slave, being of the same age and sex as such apprenticed labourer shall be."

"On the 28th of August last, when the Act was passed, Sir Benjamin D'Urban's proclamation of the 18th of January 1833, issued under the authority of the order of 6th November, was in force in the colony, and had the authority of the law there."

"The schedule of food, &c. sanctioned by that proclamation must therefore continue in force in British Guiana during the apprenticeship, and must, consequently, be inserted in place of schedules (P.) and (Q.)"

A document more completely fatal to the proclamation by your Excellency of the 24th of April, and to the views set forth in your written communication of the 29th of that month, cannot, as we humbly conceive, be stated or imagined. Upon each and all of the points now at issue, it seems to be clear, decisive and unanswerable. The proclamation by Sir Benjamin D'Urban, now impugned by your Excellency, is described as a legal proclamation, proceeding under a legitimate authority. The schedule of allowances thereto attached is declared to have been a legal schedule, having the force of law in this colony at the passing of the Emancipation Act. The proceeding of your Excellency, in maintaining the integrity of that schedule against the attempts of the court of policy, received the applause of the Government, as being founded upon "a perfectly correct view of the intent of the Slavery Act." This view is, obviously, assumed to be identical with the opinion of the Government itself, and to be in perfect consonance with the positive instructions to your Excellency, that the scale of Sir Benjamin D'Urban "must continue in force in British Guiana during the apprenticeship." We should be wanting in proper feeling towards your Excellency were we to conceal from you our strong conviction, that these opinions and that instruction are entirely irreconcilable with the scale of allowances now sought to be inflicted upon this colony.

IX.

It is hardly necessary to observe, that after the most anxious consideration of the views which have been presented to us by your Excellency, we have the misfortune entirely to differ from your Excellency in regard to "the propriety, policy and legality" of your recent proclamation. At the same time, we have to offer you our humble thanks for the great attention with which our statements have been received, as well as for the promptness with which, in consequence of these statements, you have authorized a suspension of this proclamation for six months. We regret that the great importance of the points in issue has led us to draw so largely upon the time of your Excellency; and we trust you will not consider our expectation as unreasonable, that the same publicity will be authorized by your Excellency in behalf of these observations and the accompanying documents as has already been allowed to the communication of the 29th of April.

We have, &c.

(signed) *Michael M' Turk.*
Gavin Fullarton.
John Lane.

Demerara, 10 May 1837.

(No. 1.)

To *C. W. E. Hofsted, J. L. Smith, jun., and Charles M'Dougal, Esquires.*

Demerara, 27 April 1837.

HEREWITH are submitted the following documents :

- No. 1.—Order in Council, dated 2 November 1831, promulgated in British Guiana on the 12th January 1832.
- No. 2.—Order in Council, dated 6 November 1832, promulgated in British Guiana 18th January 1833.
- No. 3.—Proclamation of Sir Benjamin D'Urban, Governor of British Guiana, dated 18 January 1833, issued in pursuance of last-mentioned Order in Council.
- No. 4.—Ordinance of British Guiana, 1834 (No. 43), promulgated 22 July 1834, with the Schedules thereunto annexed, particularly Schedule (P.)
- No. 5.—Act of the Imperial Parliament, 3 & 4 Will. 4, c. 73, particularly section 11 (and the proviso at the end of section 16).
- No. 6.—Order in Council, dated 5 June 1834, promulgated in British Guiana 19th July 1834, confirming Ordinance, No. 43, with alterations and additions, and the Schedules thereunto annexed, particularly Schedule (X.)
- No. 7.—Proclamation of Governor Sir James Carmichael Smyth, dated 25 April 1837, relating to allowances of food to apprenticed labourers.

Reference being had to these documents, and to all others within your knowledge in anywise legally applicable to or bearing on the following questions, your opinion is asked on the following points :

No. 1.—Was or was not the proclamation of Sir Benjamin D'Urban, dated 18 January 1833, relating to the allowance of provisions to be supplied to slaves, null, void and of no effect ?

No. 2.—The 11th section of the above-mentioned Act of Parliament having enacted, "During the continuance of any such apprenticeship as aforesaid, the person or persons for the time being entitled to the services of every such apprenticed labourer shall be and is and are hereby required to supply him or her with such food, clothing, lodging, medicine, medical attendance and such other maintenance and allowances as by any law now in force in the colony to which such apprenticed labourer may belong an owner is required to supply to and for any slave being of the same age and sex as such apprenticed labourer shall be :—" What law regulated the allowances of food referred to, and consequently what was the schedule of allowances of food in force when said Act of Parliament took effect, and to which it has reference ?

No. 3.—Is or is not the proclamation of Sir James Carmichael Smyth, Governor, promulgated the 25th instant, of any legal force, validity or authority, and are the persons entitled to the services of apprenticed labourers in this colony bound to supply wheat-flour, rice, yams, potatoes, eddoes or tanyas and Indian corn-meal in the quantities required by such proclamation, or are they bound to furnish allowances of such provisions according to any other scale than that specified in Schedule (X.) referred to and annexed to the above-mentioned order in council, dated 5 June 1834 ?

No. 4.—In the event of your opinion being against the legality of the requisitions prescribed by the proclamation of the Governor of the 25th April 1837, and supposing any special magistrate should attempt to enforce penalties for non-compliance with these requisitions, so far as they relate to the articles of rice, flour and corn-meal, what remedy is competent to a party so aggrieved ?

(No. 2.)

On the First Question.

WE are of opinion that the proclamation of Sir Benjamin D'Urban, dated 18 January 1833, relating to the allowance of provisions to be supplied to slaves, was not null, void and of no effect.

On the contrary, it appears that on the 6th November 1832, an order was issued by his Majesty in Council, in which, after stating that by the order in council of 2d November 1831, various provisions had been made respecting the nature and amount of food to be provided for the slaves in this colony, and after referring to other provisions of said order in council of 2d November 1831, not applicable to the present question, and after further stating that it had been

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represented to his Majesty that some of the said provisions could not be enforced without great prejudice to the slaves therein, nor without a ruinous loss to the owners of such slaves, and that other regulations might be established for securing to the slaves an adequate supply of food, clothing, &c. more compatible with the interests of the owners of such slaves, and equally conducive to the benefit of the slaves themselves, it was ordered, that it should be lawful for the Governor of the said colony, by any proclamation to be by him from time to time for that purpose issued, to suspend so much and such parts of the order in council of the 2d November 1831, relating to the matters in said order contained, as to such Governor should appear inapplicable to the state and condition of the colony; and by such proclamation to establish such other rules and regulations respecting the said several measures, or any of them, as should to such Governor appear to be more compatible with the interest of the owners of the slaves, and better adapted for securing to such slaves an adequate supply of food, clothing, &c.

Provided always, that all such proclamations should be confirmed and approved or disallowed by his Majesty in such and the same manner as was provided, in the said order, in reference to the proclamations which, by the said order, such Governor was authorized to issue.

It further appears, that in virtue of the authority conferred on him by the said order in council of 6th November 1832, and in pursuance thereof, Sir Benjamin D'Urban issued, on 18th January 1833, his proclamation, ordering and directing that the fifth regulation of the 88th clause of his Majesty's order in council, bearing date the 2d of November 1831, should be suspended, and that in lieu thereof, every owner or manager who should propose to maintain his slaves by an allowance of provisions, should be bound and required to supply such provisions to the amount and of the kinds set forth in the Schedule marked (A.) thereunto annexed.

This proclamation, then, was issued under the same authority as that by which the law of 2d November 1831 was enacted, and under an exercise of that authority, at a date posterior to the enactment of November 1831.

To suppose that his Majesty, by the order of 2d November 1831, intended to tie up or restrict his own legislative power, would not only be inconsistent with the idea of legislative authority, but also with the express words of the 120th clause of that very order; for after that part of the said clause which is recited in the proclamation of his Excellency the Governor, of April 1837, his Majesty adds these words: "Unless the same (that is, the law, statute, ordinance or proclamation repugnant to or inconsistent with that Act) shall first have been approved or confirmed by his Majesty, or by his heirs and successors, with the advice of his and their privy council."

We are therefore of opinion that the proclamation referred to in this question was at the time legal and valid.

On the Second Question.

By the 117th clause of the order in council of November 1831, coupled with the order in council of November 1832, it was declared that until disallowed by his Majesty, the proclamation of the Governor, in reference to the quantity of food to be supplied to the slaves, should have the same force and effect as if it had formed part of the order in council of 2d November 1831.

The proclamation of 18th January 1833 was duly published in the colony by Sir Benjamin D'Urban, and never disallowed, nor was any contrary order, proclamation or law promulgated prior to the passing of the Abolition Act, on the 28th August 1833.

We are therefore of opinion that the law regulating the allowance of food to slaves in force in this colony at the date of the passing of the Act of Parliament of 3 & 4 Will. 4, chap. 73, namely, 28th August 1833, was the proclamation by Sir Benjamin D'Urban, of 18th January 1833, and that the schedule of such allowances was Schedule (A.) attached to that proclamation.

On the Third Question.

We are of opinion that, notwithstanding the proclamation of his Excellency the Governor, dated the 24th April instant, the persons entitled to the services of apprenticed labourers in this colony are not bound by law to furnish allowances of provisions according to any other scale than that specified in Schedule (X.) annexed to the order in council of 5th June 1834.

By the 11th section of the Act of Parliament of 3 & 4 Will. 4, chap. 73, it was enacted, that during the continuance of the apprenticeship, the person entitled to the services of the apprenticed labourer should be required to supply him with such food, &c. and such other maintenance and allowances as by any law then in force in the colony the owner was required to supply to the slave.

And by the 16th section of the same Act it was left to the Governors, Councils and Assemblies, or other local legislatures of the colonies, or to his Majesty, with the advice of his privy council, in reference to those colonies to which the legislative authority of his Majesty in council extends, to frame the rules and regulations for securing to the apprenticed

ticed labourers punctuality and method in the supply of the food, &c. to which they were therein declared entitled; and by the 44th clause of that Act it was further enacted, that no part of the fund raised for compensating the persons then entitled to the services of slaves should be applied to the purpose of that Act for the benefit of any such person, unless an order should first have been made by his Majesty, by and with the advice of his privy council, declaring that adequate and satisfactory provision had been made by law in such colony for giving effect to that Act of Parliament, by such further Acts and supplementary enactments as therein mentioned,

His Excellency Sir James Carmichael Smyth, and the court of policy, with the view of making this adequate and satisfactory provision, framed an ordinance, on the 8th March 1834, which was transmitted home for confirmation, and to which was attached a schedule of allowances of food to be furnished to the apprenticed labourers, of diminished quantity, and differing from that of Sir Benjamin D'Urban.

By the order in council of 5th June 1834, his Majesty, after referring to the aforesaid Act of Parliament, and particularly to the 44th clause of that Act, and after referring to the above-mentioned ordinance of the Lieutenant-governor and court of policy, did, by and with the advice of his privy council, and in pursuance and exercise of the power and authority in and by the said Act of Parliament in his Majesty in council on that behalf vested, declare, that, except in so far as certain parts of the said ordinance were thereafter disallowed, and except in so far as certain parts of the said ordinance were thereafter amended by the substitution of other provisions in lieu thereof, the said ordinance was approved, confirmed and allowed and finally enacted. And his Majesty did moreover declare, that by the said ordinance, so in part disallowed and so amended as aforesaid, adequate and satisfactory provision had been made in British Guiana for giving effect to the said Act of Parliament, by such further and supplementary enactments as were therein mentioned and required. And his Majesty did further, in the said order in council, disallow the diminished schedule of allowances for food proposed by the said ordinance of the court of policy, and did substitute the Schedule (X.), which is literally a transcript of Schedule (A.) attached to Sir Benjamin D'Urban's proclamation.

Under this order of his Majesty in council, persons formerly entitled to the services of slaves in this colony received their respective portions of the compensation fund raised under the aforesaid Act of Parliament.

We cannot therefore doubt that the Schedule (X.) referred to ought to be considered as an integral and inseparable portion of the order in council of 5th June 1834, incapable of being enlarged or diminished by any power less than that by and under which it was originally enacted. The power granted to the Governor of authorizing the substitution of other provisions cannot be extended to affect the quantities of the provisions specified in the schedule. Yams, potatoes, eddoes, tanyahs, wheat-flour, Indian corn-meal and rice, are as much substantive provisions of the schedule as are the plantains, and their respective quantities are as accurately defined and fixed, and as little liable to change.

On the Fourth Question.

We are of opinion that, in the case supposed, the remedy competent to the party aggrieved would be either by interdict or by an action of damages, as circumstances might direct.

Thus Salvo Meliori advised, in George Town, Demerara, 28 April 1837.

(signed) *C. W. Ellents Hofsted.*
J. L. Smith, jun.
Charles M' Doug l.

(B.)

GOVERNMENT NOTICE, 29 April 1837.

(Vide Enclosure in Despatch 29 April 1837, No. 116, page 106.)

PROCLAMATION, 29 April 1837.

(Vide Enclosure in Despatch 29 April 1837, No. 116, page 108.)

(C.)

OPINION of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

(C.)

UNDER the fifth regulation of clause 88 of the order in council of the 2d of November 1831, it is enacted as follows:—"Each and every slave above the age of 10 years shall receive in each week not less than 21 pints of wheat-flour or of the flour of meal or Guinea corn, or 56 full grown plantains, or 56 pounds of cocoa or yams, and also seven herrings or shads, or other salted provisions equal thereto; and every slave below the age of 10 years shall be supplied with one-half of the before-mentioned allowance in each week, which allowance shall be delivered to the mother or nurse of every such infant slave." It is impossible to suppose for a moment that this order in council, as far as regards the quantity of provisions to be supplied to the slave, was not, previously to its being passed, well and maturely considered by the authorities in England; and the conclusion arrived at by his Majesty in council, that a less quantity of provisions than that specified in this fifth regulation would not be an adequate supply of food for the slave under the sixth regulation of this order in council, the Governor had the power conferred upon him of issuing from time to time, as (I presume) the exigencies of the colony might require it, proclamations authorizing the substitution for the provisions aforesaid of any other provisions equivalent to and equally nutritious with the same.

It is declared in a manner not to be misunderstood, that the provisions to be substituted for the allowance of food required to be given to the slave by the order in council are not to be less in quantity than that allowance, and they are not to be less nutritious. By the subsequent order of his Majesty in Council of the 6th November 1832, the Governor was authorized to suspend such parts of the order in council of the 2d November 1831, relative to food, &c., as appeared to be inapplicable to the state and condition of the colony, and by proclamations (in the plural number) to be by him issued from time to time to establish such other rules and regulations respecting the several matters referred to in the order in council of the 2d November 1832, as to him might appear more compatible with the interest of the owners of the slaves, and better adapted for securing to such slaves an adequate supply of food. It is also a special part of this order in council, that while the regulations to be issued under it shall be more compatible with the interest of owners, they are clearly to be "equally conducive to the benefit of the slaves themselves." It is impossible for me to consider that this order in council, authorizing the Governor to make other rules and regulations of a description better adapted for securing to the slave an adequate supply of food, could, by any sound construction that could be put upon it, put the slave in a worse condition, as to the quantity of food to be served out to him, than he was placed in by the order in council of 1831. Other rules and regulations are to be framed certainly, but not, as I conceive, to diminish the quantity of food to be allowed to the slave; but if I am correct in my interpretation of these expressions, the situation of the slave with regard to these matters might be improved, but could not be deteriorated. The order in council, I think, contemplated nothing more than the probability, that occasionally, from the state of the markets, wheat-flour, corn-meal or Guinea corn could not be procured but at a very ruinous price, perhaps could not be procured at all, and in those exigencies gave the Governor the power it conferred of authorizing the substitution of other provisions instead of those enumerated in the law, equal in quantity and not less nutritious. How Sir Benjamin D'Urban was led to issue the proclamation of the 18th January 1833, which gave the slave not even half of the quantity of corn-meal or rice as a substitute for his plantains, which the order in council of 1831 secured to him, I am at a loss to understand; Sir B. D'Urban must have been mistaken or misled as to the quantity of food necessary to be substituted for the allowance of plantains, for no planter will pretend that the substitute given is equivalent to the original allowance, any more than he could pretend that one-half of the allowance of the salted provisions given by the order would be equivalent to the whole. It must be remembered that the two orders in council of the 2d November 1831 and 6th November 1832, are laws passed *in pari materia*, and it is a settled rule of construction with regard to these, that they are to be considered as one law, and to be construed, not independently of each other, but with a reference to the code of which each is only a component part; when, therefore, I read the order in council of 1831, which gives the slave 21 pints of wheat-flour, or the same quantity of the flour or meal of Guinea or corn-meal, and collate it with the 120th clause of the same order, which enacts that no proclamation then or at any time theretofore in force in the colony, or which should thereafter be by any Governor or local legislature of such colony made, enacted, ordained or promulgated, should be of any force if in anywise repugnant to or inconsistent with the order of 1831, I must come to the conclusion that the order in council of the 6th November 1832, while it conferred upon Sir Benjamin D'Urban power to make other rules and regulations better adapted for securing to the slave an adequate supply of food, did not invest him with authority to reduce the 21 pints of wheat or other flour, allowed by the order of 1831, to such a diminished quantity when substituted for plantains as amounted to less than one-half of the quantity which the order in council prescribed, and consequently I think the legality of the proclamation of the 18th

January

January 1833, as far as regards the diminished quantity of food substituted by it for the slave's allowance of plantains, exceedingly questionable.

On the 28th August 1833, the Act for the Abolition of Slavery was passed. It is by the 11th clause enacted, that during the continuance of the apprenticeship (in other words, up to the 1st day of August 1840), the person or persons for the time being entitled to the services of the apprenticed labourer shall be bound to supply him or her with such food, clothing, lodging and medical attendance as by any law in force in the colony to which the apprenticed labourer may belong the owner of the slave was bound to furnish. It appears to be assumed as incontrovertible that the proclamation of the 18th January 1833 was the law in force at the period when the Abolition Act was passed, and that, consequently, the 11th clause of the Act of Parliament fixed this proclamation as the law finally and irrevocably, and subject to no modification or change; but I cannot concur in this view of the subject.

The order in council authorizing the Governor to issue proclamations (in the plural number), and from time to time contemplated the issuing of frequent proclamations as circumstances might require,—I can see nothing that could have prevented Sir Benjamin D'Urban from issuing another proclamation in a week after the proclamation of the 18th January 1833, and I can perceive nothing in the 11th clause of the Abolition Act that destroys the power vested in the Governor, under the order in council of the 6th November 1832, of issuing proclamations from time to time relative to the allowances of food therein mentioned. The law of the colony, by which the food of the apprenticed labourers was to be regulated after the passing of the Act of Parliament up to 1840, was the order in council of the 6th November 1832, and not (as appears to be insisted on) a mere regulation emanating from the order in council in the shape of a proclamation. The Act of Parliament for the Abolition of Slavery was a remedial Act; it was intended to benefit the slave thenceforth to become an apprenticed labourer, and it would be a rather anomalous construction of such an Act, to put upon it an interpretation which would perpetuate and render final, conclusive and unalterable a proclamation, which put the apprenticed labourer, in one of the most important points of his state, in a much worse condition than he felt himself placed in when detained in a state of slavery from which he had been raised by the Imperial Act. For these reasons, I think the 11th clause of the Act of Parliament neither took away nor fettered the power of the Governor under the order in council of the 6th November 1832, to issue his proclamations from time to time regulating the allowances of food, but that, on the contrary, the Act of Parliament has left the law on this subject precisely as it stood during the period of slavery under the order in council of the 6th November 1832.

This order in council of the 4th June 1834 has adopted the scale of allowances fixed by the proclamation of the 18th January 1833; I cannot think that this was intended to arrest and annul the Governor's power of issuing any other proclamations under the order in council of 6th November 1832, which the exigencies of the case might require.

This order in council of the 4th June 1834 appears to me rather an affirmation of the legal existence of the order in council of the 6th November 1832, as continued in force by the 11th clause of the Act of Parliament, inasmuch as it adopts the proclamation of the 18th January 1833, issued under the authority of the order of 1832. I repeat, there appears to me nothing in this circumstance intended to annihilate the powers conferred on the Governor to issue proclamations from time to time under the order of 1832, or to render the scale of allowances fixed by the order of 1834 irrevocable and unalterable during the apprenticeship.

It has been stated already, that the order of 1832 contemplated the issue of frequent proclamations; the ordinance of 8th March 1834 was confirmed by the King with precisely the same clause, enabling the Governor to issue proclamations from time to time of a similar nature. Occasions, it was contemplated, might arise when it would become matter not only of urgent but of absolute necessity to alter the scale of allowances. It is perfectly well known that yams, potatoes, tanyahs, eddoes and cocoa are not cultivated by the planters of British Guiana as provisions to be served out to the labourers. Suppose from the state of the markets it was impossible to obtain any of the substitutes for plantains enumerated in the schedule of the order in council of 1834, while others equally nutritious could be procured in abundance, could it be successfully maintained that the Governor of the colony had no power, after the Act of Parliament for the Abolition of Slavery, of issuing a new proclamation, appointing different but equivalent substitutes? I think not. It is clear, therefore, to me, that the Act of Parliament did not deprive the Governor of the power which he possessed under the order in council of November 1832, and the ordinance, No. 43, of issuing proclamations from time to time, regulating the allowance of food for the labourers, and bringing that allowance back to a standard equivalent to that at which it was fixed by the order in council of 1831 during the period of slavery; and for these reasons, coupled with that part of the 16th clause of the Act of Parliament, 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 73, which declares every enactment null and void and of no effect which falls short of effecting the true intent and meaning of the Abolition Act, even though it may have received the highest sanction which it is capable of obtaining, I think the labourer's allowance of food cannot be reduced to less than one-half of that to which the slave was entitled as a substitute

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tute for his plantains, and consequently that the proclamation of the 24th April 1837 is a legal proclamation; and that it is a debt of justice due to the labourer, I think no one who attentively considers the subject and the object of the Act of Parliament 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 73, particularly the 11th clause, will deny.

(signed)

W^m Furlonge, Attorney-general.

— No. 118.—

(No. 232.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart.

No. 118

Sir,

Downing-street, 31 July 1837.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches, Nos. 304, 310 and 319, of the 23d and 29th April and 13th May, relative to the proclamation which you issued on the 24th April last, as to the quantity of corn-meal to which the apprenticed labourers were entitled when substituted for plantains.

The only question controverted between yourself on the one hand, and Messrs. M'Turk, Fullarton and Lane on the other, is the lawfulness of your proclamation of the 24th April. In their very elaborate statement of the 10th May, those gentlemen have not attempted to maintain that the allowances of flour and rice provided by Sir B. D'Urban's proclamation are really adequate to the maintenance of the labourer; and from their silence on this head, it may be inferred that they regarded the opinion of the Lieutenant-governor as incontrovertible.

This, indeed, is not the view taken of that opinion by several gentlemen connected with the colony who have addressed themselves to me on the subject, and to whose representations I shall, in a separate despatch, call your attention. At present, I confine myself to the sole question raised by Messrs. M'Turk, Fullarton and Lane—the legality of your proclamation.

Now the question of law is debated upon a ground which, if it be valid, restrains the power of Her Majesty in Council not less than that of the Governor himself; for it is alleged that the Act of Parliament for the Abolition of Slavery has fixed immutably, until the 1st August 1840, the scale which was actually in force at the date of that statute. It is therefore denied that any authority inferior to that of Parliament can alter any part of that scale. This conclusion is maintained by the three advocates consulted by Messrs. M'Turk, Fullarton and Lane, and it is as distinctly negatived by the Attorney-general of British Guiana.

In such circumstances, it does not appear to me that the validity of your proclamation can be ascertained by any method, excepting that of a judicial decision. If the law officers of the Crown in this country should maintain its legal authority, still the parties would not be bound by their opinion; and have, indeed, plainly intimated their intention to resist, by all lawful methods, the enforcement of the proclamation of the 24th April last.

My present opinion, therefore, is, that the proper course would be to instruct the local attorney-general to take the necessary means for bringing this question under the cognizance of the court of civil justice of Demerara and Essequibo. If the proclamation should be pronounced valid by that tribunal, it will come under the consideration of Her Majesty in Council to decide. On the opposite supposition, it should be recalled by yourself. It may, indeed, be said that Her Majesty's previous confirmation of this proclamation is essential to impart to it the force of law; and that, therefore, the course which is suggested will bring the case to trial under a fatal disadvantage. It appears to me, however, that this is a misapprehension. If the power of making such a proclamation exist at all, it exists in virtue of the order in council of the 6th November 1832; and the questions really are, first, whether the powers imparted to the Governor of British Guiana by that order were lawfully exercised by Sir B. D'Urban's proclamation of the 18th January 1833; and, second, whether those powers are spent and exhausted, or can still be brought into exercise. The validity of this proclamation

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tion of the 24th April depends, therefore, upon the extent of the powers which were on that day vested in you under royal orders previously issued, and is not necessarily dependent upon any royal order to be subsequently issued. Nothing, therefore, seems to forbid the suspension of Her Majesty's decision, until this doubt shall have been set at rest by the judgment of the court. Supposing, however, this view of the case to be erroneous, there will be sufficient time for the correction of it on that error being explained, since the order will not come into operation until four months from the present time.

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I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg.*

—No. 119.—

(No. 247.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart.

Sir,

Downing-street, 15 September 1837.

No. 119.

IN my despatch, No. 232, of the 31st July, on the subject of your proclamation of the 24th April last, regulating the quantity of corn-meal to which the apprentices were entitled in substitution for plantains, I stated that the only question controverted between yourself on the one hand, and Messrs. M'Turk, Fullarton and Lane on the other, was the lawfulness of your proclamation, and that those gentlemen had not attempted to maintain the adequacy of the allowance of flour and rice provided by Sir Benjamin D'Urban's proclamation; and, proceeding on the assumption that the point of adequacy was not contended for by those gentlemen, although by others who had objected to the proclamation it was, I confined myself in that despatch to instructing you as to the method by which the question of law might be brought to adjudication; and I reserved for a separate despatch the remarks which I should have to address to you on the representations of the parties residing in this country, who, by communications made to me, had affirmed the adequacy of the allowances under Sir Benjamin D'Urban's proclamation.

I have now to acquaint you, that since the date of my above-mentioned despatch, I have been corrected as to the supposition that Messrs. M'Turk, Fullarton and Lane acquiesced in the insufficiency of the former allowances; and I have received from the remonstrants against your proclamation statements of the grounds on which they contend for their sufficiency. These statements are now under my consideration; and the object of my present communication is, to desire that you will continue the suspension of your proclamation until you shall have received the instructions which I shall have the honour to address to you, so soon as I shall have had the necessary time for forming a deliberate decision as to the right course to be taken on this question.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg.*

—No. 120.—

(No. 371.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 28 August 1837.

No. 120.

I BEG to lay before your Lordship a memorial addressed to Her Majesty by certain proprietors and representatives of estates and others, relative to my proclamation of the 24th April 1837, augmenting the quantity of corn-meal or of rice to be issued to the labourers, whenever recourse should be had, in lieu of plantains, to those articles of food. I also beg to enclose a copy of my reply. With respect to the subject itself, I beg to refer your Lordship to my despatches of the 23d April 1837, No. 304; of the 29th April 1837, No. 310; and of the 13th May 1837, No. 319; together with their several enclosures.

I very much lament the narrow, confined and impolitic view of so important a subject

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subject taken by the memorialists. The estates in Berbice are highly cultivated, produce immense profits, and are making the most ample returns to the proprietors. To endeavour, under such circumstances, to muzzle the ox which is treading out their corn; to give to a stout labouring man, for his weekly subsistence, but ten pints of ground corn or of dirty rice; appears to me to be an act of the most ill-judged parsimony. Fortunately for the country, fortunately even for their own interests, the law is not as represented by these gentlemen; and I have very little doubt but that Her Majesty's approbation of the proclamation of which the memorialists complain has already been communicated to your Lordship, and that the same will, in due course, be notified to me.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 120.

To The QUEEN's most Excellent Majesty in Council.

Encl. 1, in No. 120.

The humble Memorial of the undersigned Proprietors and Representatives of Estates, Merchants and others, inhabitants of the District of Berbice, in the Colony of British Guiana.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

YOUR memorialists are desirous, in all loyal and dutiful humility, of laying at the feet of Your Majesty in council their earnest and respectful remonstrance against a proclamation recently issued by his Excellency Sir James Carmichael Smyth, Governor of British Guiana, in regard to the allowances of food hereafter to be supplied to the apprenticed labourers of this colony.

On the 2d of November 1831, an order was issued by his late Majesty in council, by section 88, whereof it was provided, that every owner or manager of slaves who should propose to maintain the same by an allowance of provisions, should be required to supply, in each week, to every such slave, being above the age of 10 years, "not less than 21 pints of wheat-flour, or of the flour or meal of Guinea or Indian corn, or 56 full-grown plantains, or 56 pounds of cocoas or yams, and also seven herrings or shads, or other salted provisions equivalent thereto;" and to every such slave, being under the age of 10 years, one-half of the said allowances. Several of the regulations of this order in council, and especially the scale of provisions set forth in the said section, having appeared to the inhabitants of British Guiana to be most erroneous and excessive, productive of no real benefit to the negro, while they were fraught with heavy damage to masters and employers, a solemn "declaration" against their enforcement was humbly transmitted by the non-official members of the court of policy for the consideration of his late Majesty in council.

In consequence of this strong representation, his late Majesty in council was graciously pleased to issue another order upon the 6th of November 1832, giving power to the Governor of British Guiana, by proclamations to be by him issued from time to time, to suspend such parts of the order of 1831 as might appear to be inapplicable to the condition of this colony, and to establish such other regulations in the room thereof as to such Governor might seem to be expedient.

His Excellency, Sir Benjamin D'Urban, at that time Governor of British Guiana, upon receiving the order of his late Majesty in council of the 6th November 1832, proceeded without delay to determine upon the alteration necessary to be introduced into the operation of the order of 1831.

By proclamation of date the 18th of January 1833, Sir Benjamin D'Urban, in pursuance of the authority thus conferred upon him, did suspend certain of the regulations of the order of 1831; and in the first place, and altogether, the scale of provisions to be supplied to slaves, as set forth in section 88 thereof. In lieu of the quantities contained in the scale so suspended, the allowance to slaves was directed, by this proclamation, to be furnished by owners and managers, in terms of a certain schedule thereto annexed, whereby every slave became entitled in each week, besides a liberal allowance of salt provisions, to not less than 70 pounds of plantains, or, as substitutes for plantains, to 25 pounds of yams or potatoes, or to 20 pounds of eddoes or tanyahs, or to 10 pints of wheat-flour, or to 10 pints of Indian corn-meal, or to 10 pints of rice.

The schedule of Sir Benjamin D'Urban was received with cheerfulness by the slaves, and with general gratitude by their employers; and it continued, without the occurrence of a single complaint, to form the law of allowances in British Guiana down to the passing of the Abolition Act.

It was a chief purpose of the said Act to maintain the apprenticed labourers in exactly the same situation, with regard to the amount of their allowances, in which they stood, in the character of slaves, at the date of the passing of that enactment, it being distinctly provided by section 11 thereof, that the employer of any such labourers should be required "to supply him or her with such food, clothing, lodging, medicine, medical attendance, and

such

such other maintenance and allowances as by any law now in force in the colony to which such apprenticed labourers may belong an owner is required to supply to and for any slave being of the same age and sex as such apprenticed labourer shall be."

In so far as regards the colony of British Guiana, your memorialists cannot consider that the "law" of allowances, referred to in this Act of Parliament as "now in force in the colony," namely, at the date of the passing of the Act itself, had reference to any suspended portion of the order of his late Majesty in council of 1831, but entirely to the schedule of Sir Benjamin D'Urban, by which the allowances to slaves had been exclusively regulated since the 18th of January 1833.

By the 44th section of the Act for the Abolition of Slavery it was provided, that no part of the sum of 20,000,000 *l.* sterling, appropriated by Parliament, in name of compensation, should be applied for the benefit of any person entitled to the services of any slave in any colony, till an order should have first issued from his Majesty in council, "declaring that adequate and satisfactory provision hath been made, by law, in such colony for giving effect to this present Act by such further and supplementary enactments as aforesaid."

In order to secure the application of the amount of compensation appropriated to British Guiana, the court of policy thereof proceeded to construct a certain ordinance, numbered "43," with the view of making provision in this colony for the giving effect to the statute for the Abolition of Slavery; but in the enactments of that ordinance, with regard to the provisions to be supplied to apprenticed labourers, the said court, overlooking the obvious import of section 11 of the said Act of Parliament, transmitted, for the approval of his late Majesty in council, a diminished scale of allowances, materially differing from the schedule of Sir Benjamin D'Urban.

His Majesty in council, acting upon the true intent of the law for the Abolition of Slavery, was pleased to disallow, by an order in council dated the 5th of June 1834, the scale of allowances proposed by the court of policy, and instead thereof to enact a separate tariff, which is annexed to said order, as a substantive portion thereof, and is, in all respects, a transcript of the schedule of the 18th January 1833, a formal communication being, about the same period, received by his Excellency the Governor from the Colonial Secretary of his late Majesty, that the scale of Sir Benjamin D'Urban "must" be maintained as the law in British Guiana to the expiry of the apprenticeship.

By virtue of the said order in council, of which the scale or schedule already mentioned was a clear, integral and unalterable provision, proceeding under the powers vested in his late Majesty in council by the very Act of Abolition, the parties entitled to the services of slaves in this colony received their proportions of the compensation, and in conformity with that scale so solemnly sanctioned, the allowances have ever since been supplied by the employer and received by the negro without one instance of dissatisfaction or complaint within the entire extent of British Guiana.

In this situation of absolute contentment on the part of the apprenticed labourers of this colony, in regard to the quantity of their provisions, a proclamation was promulgated by his Excellency the Governor, on the 29th of April 1837, without any previous notice or communication whatever, declaring the schedule of allowances, first published by Sir Benjamin D'Urban in 1833, and afterwards adopted by his late Majesty in council, under the authority of the Abolition Act, to be "repugnant" to the provisions of the previous order of his late Majesty in council of the 2d of November 1831, and to be therefore "of no force or effect" in this colony.

No notice whatever is taken in this proclamation of the order by his late Majesty in council of the 6th of November 1832, by which Sir Benjamin D'Urban was not only empowered, but, as it humbly appears to your memorialists, substantially enjoined by his late Majesty in council to suspend the obnoxious provisions of the order of 1831, and to substitute other regulations in their room, leaving it thereby to be inferred that the scale of Sir Benjamin D'Urban had been an utterly unauthorized and gratuitous enactment, and as such, was incapable of being "recognized as legal or valid by any court, judge or magistrate within this colony."

Having thus disposed of the schedule of Sir Benjamin D'Urban, the proclamation of the 29th of April proceeds to direct, in all cases where "it may not be convenient for the employer of an apprenticed labourer to issue the weekly allowance of 70 pounds weight of plantains to each labourer, the substitution of not less than 56 pounds of yams or potatoes, or cocoas, or eddoes or tanyahs, or 21 pints of wheat-flour, or of Indian corn-meal, or of rice, in lieu of plantains."

In so enumerating the supplies to be substituted for plantains, this proclamation not only distinctly re-enacts the scale contained in the superseded order of his late Majesty in council of 2d November 1831, being more than double the extent of such supplies according to the schedule of Sir Benjamin D'Urban, but moreover introduces an exorbitant allowance of a totally new article of supply, namely rice, which was not referred to at all in the order of 1831.

While your memorialists regard with the deepest interest the happiness and comfort of the apprenticed labourers of this colony, they cannot but consider the proclamation thus issued as a proceeding of a most injurious and arbitrary character, negative of the obvious import and enactments of the laws with regard to the Abolition of Slavery, and for which there is no apology on the ground of any previous complaint on the part of an apprenticed labourer, or by any kind of investigation into the sufficiency or otherwise of the allowances presently supplied.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Your memorialists have observed in the Royal Gazette of this colony a printed communication by his Excellency the Governor, of date the 29th of April 1837, in which his Excellency appears no longer to insist upon the nullity previously declared against the schedule of Sir Benjamin D'Urban, on the ground of its being "repugnant" to the scale of the order by his late Majesty in council of 1831, and in which his Excellency for the first time, noticing the existence of the remedial order of 1832, has been pleased to maintain the legality of the proclamation of the 24th of April 1837, upon a footing totally different from the statement in that proclamation itself.

Being well assured that the arrangements with reference to the supplies to be given to apprenticed labourers in British Guiana, after the passing of the Abolition Act, are not only adequate and liberal in themselves, but were intended by his late Majesty in council, as well as by the Imperial Parliament, to remain unaltered during the full period of the apprenticeship, and that all contrary powers of regulation previously conferred upon any Governor or Governors were by virtue of these arrangements arrested and annulled, your memorialists are impelled to seek the gracious protection of Your Majesty in council against so serious an aggression, not only upon the lawful rights of individuals, but upon the happiness and tranquillity of this district at large, as appears to be contemplated by the proclamation of the 24th of April, which, by a following proclamation of the 29th of that month, is to come into operation in British Guiana upon the 1st of November 1837.

May it therefore please Your Majesty, by and with the advice of your most honourable Privy Council, graciously to adopt such measures with regard to the said proclamation of the 24th of April 1837, either by the immediate disallowance thereof or otherwise, as may be sufficient for the protection of your humble memorialists from the serious peril in danger of which they are standing.

And your memorialists will ever pray.

Andrew Ross, James Kirkwood, D. C. Cameron (by his attorney, James Kirkwood), M. M. Thackrah, Rodk. Barron Fraser, W. Gunn, Will. Richardson, Geo. Adams, T. M. Houston, W. Nash, Wm. Grant, Wm. Fyfe, George Falcons, James H. Young, James Paterson, George Hogan, Thomas William (by his attorney, James Paterson), John Edwards, R. Marshall, John Bethune, J. H. Downel, John M'Dougall, Hy. Hayer, Wm. Marshall, John Sharp, J. H. Grant, J. P. Alt, T. ———, James Grimond, W. G. Krieyez, Wm. Campbell, E. P. Cameron, M. D., Robert Robertson, J. Chisholm, Thomas Gunn, John Anderson, Patrick Cameron, G. Baird, R. Taitt, Wm. Deans, W. Ross, John Murray (by his attorney, W. Ross), Thomas Ansell (by his attorney, W. Ross), Thomas Gray, Thomas Fraser, Thomas Jones Gellivry, James Sutherland, Wm. Walker, D. Chisholm, R. C. Williamson, E. M. Smith, John Williams, D. K. Taylor, Alexander Cameron, Thomas Coleman, D. Ross, William Cort, William Cort, jun., John Cort, Frederick Cort, Joseph Walker O. Byron, John M'Leod, Donald Campbell, Wm. Laing, James Bone, Benjamin Warren, S. Dawson, James Laing, Geo. Laing, Robert Sempee (by his attorney, Geo. Laing), E. Westmorland, Wm. Munro (by his attorney, Robert Robertson), Peter Heywood, Alex. M'Intosh, Wm. Menzies, P. N. Mackay, A. Bone, W. Chisholm, E. Lloyd Jones, H. L. Beard, Lambert P. Henery, Wm. P. Henery, A. R. Hollingsworth, jun., G. T. Turnbull (by his attorney, James Kirkwood), Walter Lorimer, William M'Neil, A. M'Kenzie, James Scott, John A. Forsyth, James Ross, J. N. Overmüller, Frans. Jackson, J. C. Cameron, jun., Robert Gardner (by his attorney, Frans. Jackson), John Cameron, attorney of Davidsons, Burkly & Co., Lord Reay, Estate of Wm. Alves, deceased, O. M'Donald, J. M'Lennan, John Sonnersall, Henry Quin, Thomas Rich, Cathcart Chalmers, H. Ayng, James Pym, H. S. Clarke, W. M. Hackney, F. Braithwaite, Robert Boyd, Alexander Macpherson, F. Lanyeim, G. A. Bender, J. F. Mittleholset, William G. Bootle, H. J. Chalmers, J. Muyderman, T. Overeem, the widow Helmers, Charles Hy. Milne, G. B. M'Kenzie, Thomas Cormack, H. M. Nicholson, Thomas Kelsh, J. C. S. Noteboorn, John P. Van Rossum, John Griffith, William M'Adam, Duncan M'Laren, John M'Cubbin, G. G. Lowenfeld, Peter Richirst, sz., E. Avenegh, G. G. Lowenfeld, qq., John M'Dougall, William Katz, J. S. Lowenfeld, George Katz, Est. H. White, deceased, Minors Jeffery, J. De Vry, Johans. Arends, H. d'Hantzur, Thomas Edgeton, Charles Matheson, P. Ware, Henry E. Stockin, R. Sempee & Co., attornies of plantation Schepmoed, Wm. Campbell, qq., Plant. Albion, Plant. Litchfield, Plant. Reliance, R. Hart, J. A. Earrault, H. M'Callum (by his attorney, J. A. Earrault), Wm. Pashley (by his attorney, J. A. Earrault), Chas. Faddy (by his attorney, J. A. Earrault), Campbell Faloon, attorney of James Blair, Campbell Faloon, attorney of H. M'Calmont, Campbell Faloon, attorney of T. and W. Earle & Co., Campbell Faloon, attorney of John Ross, Campbell Faloon, proprietor of plantations Smithson's Place and Essendam, Lewis Cameron, qq., plantation Union, Lewis Cameron, qq., plantation Ross; J. Moore, proprietor of plantation Jacoba Wilhelmina; William Corlett, manager of plantation Waterloo, Philip Oldfield, manager, pp. No. 17 & 18, 19 & 20; A. Erant, manager of Hope and Experiment; Wm. Dean, overseer of Hope and Experiment; P. Nicolson, Robert M'Laren, John

John Hollis, Alex. M'Donald, Thomas Fry, George Lancaster, William Niles, Hugh Roxburgh, manager, Cotton Tree, Jas. Ross, Wm. O'Donoghue, Charles Keating, Richard Wegg, John Stewart, manager of plantation Blairmount; Robt J. Gibson, N. T. Black, Wm. Matheson, A. Macleod, G. Crass, F. G. Carbin, H. M. Nicholson, W. v. d. Marck, John Riddock, William Ross, Thomas Bethune, John J. Dare, James Cormick, R. Nugent, A. Nicolson, C. Franzen, J. Theilen, C. B. Kip, M. V. Kimmers, L. Carbin, qq., J. J. D'Hannar, M. Lankhorst, J. Russel, G. H. von Waldkind, John M'Kenzie, J. Franzen, James Carlile, R. Burns, J. Carmichael Jameson, Geo. Hewley, Hugh Campbell, J. Wintz, Thos. Hutchison (by his attorney, J. A. Farrault), Rodk. M'Kenzie, E. Hicks, John Junor (by his attorney, E. Hicks), T. C. H. Moore (by his attorney, E. Hicks).

BRITISH GUIANA.

Enclosure 2, in No. 120.

Government Secretary's Office, Encl. 2, in No. 120.
Demerara, 28 August 1837.

Sir,

I AM directed by his Excellency the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22d instant, and of the memorial to Her Majesty which accompanied it. I have the honour to acquaint you that this document will be forwarded by the earliest opportunity. It will be impossible for the Governor to support the prayer of the memorial, as his Excellency is perfectly convinced that 10 pints of ground maize or Indian corn per week, or the same quantity of the very dirty and ill-cleaned African rice imported into this colony, will not afford sufficient nourishment for a labouring man for that period of time.

The Governor desires me to add, that he was not aware that there had been a public meeting of the proprietors and representatives of estates of the district of Berbice, held in May last, at New Amsterdam, upon this subject. Such a meeting, in his Excellency's opinion, had better have been avoided. As, however, the proprietary body have thought proper to assemble, and to unite in making a representation to the Crown in favour of what they erroneously conceive to be their interest, his Excellency knows of no authority to prevent the apprenticed labourers from equally addressing themselves to the Crown, and of praying that the proclamation of the Governor, alluded to in the memorial, based alike upon law and upon equity, may be confirmed.

I have, &c.

(signed) *H. E. F. Young,*
Government Secretary.

To John Cameron, Esq.
Chairman of the Committee of Proprietors and
Representatives of Estates in the
District of Berbice.

(True copy.)

(signed) *W. B. Wolseley,* Assistant Government Secretary.

— No. 121. —

(No. 267.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord Glenelg to Governor Sir J. C. Smyth, Bart.

Sir,

Downing-street, 11 November 1837.

No. 121.

IN my despatch of the 31st July last, No. 232, instructing you as to the course of proceeding by which the legality of your proclamation of the 24th April might be ascertained, I intimated to you my intention of addressing you in a separate communication as to the merits of that measure, as involved in the question whether the quantity of wheat-flour, Indian corn-meal and rice (being 10 pints of each) allowed weekly to the apprenticed labourer under Sir B. D'Urban's tariff of 18th January 1833, was sufficient for his maintenance, or whether, on the contrary, that quantity required to be augmented, as it was by your proclamation, to 21 pints of each of those articles. I further apprized you, in my despatch of the 15th September, that I had invited the parties in this country who had complained of your proclamation to set forth the grounds on which they maintained the adequacy of Sir B. D'Urban's tariff, and that my instructions to you on the subject were deferred until I should have had a sufficient opportunity of considering their several statements, and forming a mature opinion on the subject; and I directed you in the meanwhile further to suspend

BRITISH GUIANA. the operation of your proclamation until my final instructions should have reached you.

In order that you may be enabled the better to appreciate the grounds on which my present opinion has been formed, I enclose herewith copies of the whole of the correspondence which has taken place between this department and the gentlemen in this country who have remonstrated against your proclamation.

Mr. Stephen to Mr. M'Garel, 12 July.
Mr. M'Garel to Mr. Stephen, 19 July.
Mr. Stephen to Mr. M'Garel, 4 Aug.
Ditto - - ditto - - 9 Aug.
Mr. M'Garel to Mr. Stephen, 15 Aug.
Mr. Stephen to Mr. Gladstone, 9 Aug.
Mr. Gladstone to Mr. Stephen, 26 Aug.
Mr. Fullarton to ditto 11 Aug.
Mr. Stephen to Mr. Fullarton, 25 Aug.

In approaching the consideration of this subject, I have thought it not immaterial to have reference to the course of the previous measures relating to it,—the order in council of 2d November 1831; the order in council of the 6th November 1832; Sir B. D'Urban's proclamation of the 18th January 1833; the ordinance of the court of policy of 8th March 1834; and the order in council of the 5th June 1834. On referring to these instruments, and the correspondence connected with them, I find that the tariff of food which was imposed by the first of the orders in council, and which your proclamation would revive, was the subject of remonstrance so soon as it was promulgated, and that his late Majesty's Government of that time, being satisfied of the propriety of admitting alterations in that tariff, as well as in certain other of the regulations, passed the second of the orders in council, in order that the Governor might be empowered to make alterations accordingly. It was in pursuance of this second order that Sir B. D'Urban issued his proclamation of the 18th January 1833 with a new tariff, which was not expressly confirmed at the time, but was, however, suffered to remain in operation, and was subsequently adopted by his Majesty in council, and inserted under the title of Schedule (X.) in the order in council of 5th June 1834, passed for the purpose of confirming, with amendments, the ordinance of the 8th March preceding, in aid of the Abolition Act.

I collect from the terms of your proclamation, and of your despatch, No. 304, of the 23d April, transmitting it, that at the moment of issuing it, you had not in your recollection the order in council of the 6th November 1832, although you appear to have adverted to its being in existence before the 29th of April, when you suspended the operation of your proclamation, and addressed your letter in defence of it to Messrs. M'Turk, Fullarton and Lane.

Having regard to this course of the proceedings in the matter, I think we can hardly look on the order in council of 2d November 1831 as necessarily furnishing a standard for present adoption, and inasmuch as the allowances of 18th of January 1833 had been (as far as I can judge from a collation of your despatches of the 23d and 29th April and 13th May, with the representations of Messrs. M'Turk, Fullarton and Lane) universally acquiesced in by the negroes for three years, without any complaint of their insufficiency when duly served out; and as I was not apprized of any representation of their insufficiency having been made on behalf of the apprentices by the special magistrates, none of whom have been referred to by you in support of that view, I cannot but consider the tariff of Sir B. D'Urban, adopted by his Majesty in council in the order of 5th June 1834, as having at least a presumption in its favour, and as entitled to be maintained, until a case against it should be clearly established by other evidence than that of the order in council of 2d November 1831.

To the evidence afforded by the Bahamas allowance of 21 pints of Indian corn-meal, it is replied, that in that colony there is no allowance of salt fish, the corn-meal being the only article of food provided for the apprentices. If I were to assume the respective values of Indian corn-meal and salt fish in the Bahamas to be the same as (according to the table enclosed in your despatch of the 29th April) they are in British Guiana, 10 pints of Indian corn-meal and three pounds of salt fish would be by no means a money equivalent for 21 pints of Indian corn-meal. But I apprehend that Indian corn is much cheaper in the Bahamas than in British Guiana, and I perceive accordingly that when rice is substituted for it in the former colony, 14 pints of rice are given as an equivalent for the 21 pints of Indian corn-meal, instead of the equal quantities which are given both by Sir B. D'Urban's tariff and by your own. Rice is an article more likely to approach the same price in the respective colonies; and if I compare the cost of the allowance of 14 pints of rice with that of 10 pints of rice and three pounds of salt fish, computing all at British Guiana prices, I find the money value of the British Guiana allowance to fall short by only $5\frac{1}{4}$ stivers that of the Bahamas, the one amounting

amounting to 42 stivers per week, the other to $36\frac{3}{4}$; and as the Bahamas tariff allows nothing but farinaceous food of the one species or the other, I presume that the quantity was not supposed to be all consumed by the negro, but that a portion was intended to enable him, by sale or exchange, to provide himself with salt fish or other esculents; and it is unnecessary to say that where the exchangeable value of the article is small, a larger quantity of it must be given for this purpose.

Taking these circumstances into consideration, I am inclined very much to doubt whether the Bahamas tariff of Indian corn-meal can be referred to as a standard or measure by which to judge of the adequacy of Sir B. D'Urban's tariff for British Guiana, whilst the tariffs in force in Trinidad and the Mauritius, as Messrs. M'Garel, King and Cavan have observed, fall short of Sir Benjamin D'Urban's.

But on the simple practical question, whether 10 pints or 21 of any particular species of farinaceous food is required for the support of a male adult in British Guiana, it would have been more satisfactory to appeal to more direct and practical tests than those of one tariff or another in force at different times in different places: it is a question which appears capable of being solved by experiment with sufficient accuracy for all necessary purposes. In this country, the experiment could not easily be tried as regards Indian corn-meal; but rice is assumed by both proclamations (as I have already remarked, to be equivalent to it in equal quantities, and it is moreover (judging by the respective imports) much more extensively used; and in respect to this article, the information which I have received would lead me to infer that 10 pints per week is not an inadequate allowance. If, therefore, I were compelled at once to decide the question with the imperfect means which I here possess of bringing it to a satisfactory test, I own that I should not feel myself warranted in advising Her Majesty to allow your proclamation to take effect. On a subject, however, of this nature, and indeed on any subject connected with your administration, I could not reconcile it to myself to overrule your authority without the most entire conviction of the necessity for my interference. If, indeed, the illegality of the proclamation should be established, it must fall to the ground without any further interposition. Assuming, however, for the present its legality, I shall suspend my final opinion upon it until you shall have had an opportunity of considering the observations which I have now addressed to you, and the enclosed documents, and shall have consulted the special magistrates severally on the sufficiency of the present allowance. You will transmit to me their respective opinions on this point, with the grounds stated by themselves on which their opinions have been formed. It will, however, be desirable that it should not be publicly known that such an inquiry has been addressed to them, as the knowledge of it might tend to excite complaint and dissatisfaction where none at present exist, and thus, among other inconveniences, to lessen the value of the information which the past experience of the special magistrates may enable them to impart. In the mean time, you will continue the suspension of your proclamation. I have not overlooked the importance which you attach, on moral and political grounds, to the continuance or restoration of the practice of subsisting the negro on the produce of provision grounds instead of imported grain. I entirely concur with you in this view, and I should regard the condition of British Guiana as in every respect more auspicious if the circumstances of the colony were such as to induce naturally, or to permit us to bring about by any laws or regulations, the dependence of the negro on his provision grounds for some portion of the necessaries of life. But it is evident from the facts which you have mentioned, that circumstances are tending forcibly in a contrary direction, and I do not see that any method has been pointed out which would be of any avail to counteract them after the termination of the apprenticeship. You recommend that after the 1st August 1840, a piece of land, together with sufficient time to cultivate it, should be insisted on as the basis of all agricultural agreements. The difficulty here is to find by what means any such contract could be made binding, when it is the direct pecuniary interest of both the parties to it to defeat it. It could not be proposed to employ the civil power in compelling freemen to work on provision grounds, when wages are offered them which will buy them more and better food than they could raise. Nor can it be imagined to be practicable to prevent the planter from purchasing the time and labour which the negro is desirous to sell.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Unless, then, there could be some prospect of being able to keep up the system of provision grounds after the 1st August 1840, it would not be advisable to force its continuance during the intermediate time, when it is comparatively unimportant; nor do I think that even were it more important, the means of forcing it, by an alteration of the tariff, could be justified as such, if they fail of justification on the ground of inadequacy in the tariff as it exists.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Glenelg.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 121.

Encl. 1, in No. 121.

Gentlemen,

Downing-street, 12 July 1837.

ADVERTING to what passed at the interview which you held with Lord Glenelg at this office on the 10th instant, his Lordship directs me to request that, to prevent any misapprehension on a subject of no ordinary importance, you would communicate to him a written statement of the facts which you then brought under his notice relative to the administration of the Government of British Guiana.

Messrs. Cavan, M'Garel and King.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Stephen.*

Enclosure 2, in No. 121.

Encl. 2, in No. 121.

My Lord,

14, Wimpole-street, 19 July 1837.

WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Stephen's letter, conveying to us your Lordship's request that, to prevent any misapprehension on a subject of no ordinary importance, we should communicate to your Lordship a written statement of the facts which we had brought under your Lordship's notice relative to the administration of the government of British Guiana, at the interview with which we were honoured on the 10th instant.

In compliance with this request, we have now the honour to state, that the facts with respect to the proclamation of the Governor of British Guiana of the 24th April last, by which his Excellency increased the allowances of provisions to the apprentices in lieu of plantains more than twofold what they are now as established by law, are as follows:

1st. The present allowances were fixed by Sir Benjamin D'Urban, after a patient inquiry in the colony, and were formally made law by order in council dated 5th June 1834, no doubt after due consideration.

2d. The present allowances have been found to be proper and sufficient for the healthy maintenance of the apprentices. That this must be the case is evident by the state of health of the colony, and, as we are informed and believe, by the absence of complaints by the apprentices of the allowances being inadequate. The many frivolous complaints on other subjects which have been made by them proves that they are sufficiently prone to complain where there is any shadow of excuse for doing so; and, in a case of insufficient food, there would not have been a solitary or occasional complaint, but an universal clamour and outcry.

3d. The Governor, in his proclamation of 24th April, does not declare that the alteration is founded upon inquiry with or without a complaint, but merely that the schedule settled by Sir Benjamin D'Urban is different from one in an order in council of 1831, not advertng to the fact of its having been made law by the order in council of 5th June 1834.

4th. The Governor, in a Government notice accompanying his proclamation of 29th April, admits that Sir Benjamin D'Urban was authorized, by order in council, to issue a schedule, though his Excellency enters into a laboured defence of his first proclamation.

5th. The Governor, on the 29th of April, suspends his first proclamation for six months, on the representation made to him that there was not in the colony a sufficient stock of farinaceous food to enable the planters to issue the new allowances, and that the present allowance is abundant.

It is thus evident (granting the assumption of there being a deficient supply) that the Governor could not consider the increased allowances essential to the health of the people, for importations could have been obtained in much less time than six months; and if the old allowances be only one-half of what is proper, the delay would be totally unjustifiable. The effect of such proceedings upon the minds of the people must be most injurious to the tranquillity of the colony, and the dissatisfaction and discontent must prevent all those arrangements which it is so necessary to consider and prepare in anticipation of the final alteration in the condition of society which will take place so soon as 1840.

With respect to the subject matter of those complaints of the conduct of the Governor formerly made, and which were alluded to at the conference, we think it unnecessary to trouble your Lordship with any fresh statement of facts. The memorials and documents are no doubt to be found in the records of the Colonial Office; but we feel it incumbent upon us respectfully to state-

to

to your Lordship, that no answer to those complaints has ever been made, calculated to change the opinion which we sincerely entertain, that the complaints made by the inhabitants and other proprietors of the colony, of the conduct of the Governor in so many instances, are founded on truth and reason.

Hoping that your Lordship will give the subject matter of this communication your serious consideration,

We have, &c.

(signed) *Charles M'Garel.*
William King.
James Cavan.

The Lord Glenelg, &c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 3, in No. 121.

Gentlemen,

Downing-street, 4 August 1837.

Encl. 3, in No. 121.

I AM directed by Lord Glenelg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th ult. On a full consideration of the subject to which you have in this letter, and in your previous interview with Lord Glenelg, called his attention, his Lordship desires to observe, that the charges which you prefer against the administration of the government of British Guiana by Sir James Carmichael Smyth, relate either to the conduct of that officer in reference to his recent proclamations respecting the food of the apprenticed labourers, or to matters which had formerly been brought under the notice of his Lordship or his predecessors in office.

For your information, with regard to the first of these topics, Lord Glenelg directs me to transmit to you the accompanying copy of the instructions which have been addressed to the Governor. With regard to the other complaints of which Sir Carmichael Smyth's administration has at various times been the object, Lord Glenelg finds that they have each, in turn, been investigated and disposed of, and must now be considered as set at rest. To this general remark, an exception is to be made, in the case of certain proceedings which appear to have occurred in the last ordinary session of the court of policy, and in which the combined court of policy and of financial representatives was ultimately engaged. On this head, his Lordship has directed the Governor to supply additional information, and, until it shall have arrived, must suspend his opinion.

I have, &c.

Messrs. M'Garel, King and Cavan.

(signed) *James Stephen.*

Enclosure 4, in No. 121.

Gentlemen,

Downing-street, 9 August 1837.

Encl. 4, in No. 121.

WITH reference to my letter of the 4th instant, respecting the proclamation which had been issued by the Governor of British Guiana, on the subject of the allowance of food to the apprenticed labourers, I am directed by Lord Glenelg to acquaint you, that as his Lordship would be desirous of receiving and of affording due consideration to the statements which may be made to him in proof of the sufficiency of the allowance of farinaceous food, which the proclamation of the former Governor, Sir Benjamin D'Urban, required to be made to the negroes, his Lordship would feel obliged if you would inform him whether your letter of the 19th ult. is to be considered as comprising all the observations which you propose to make to his Lordship on this topic.

I am, &c.

Messrs. M'Garel, King and Cavan.

(signed) *James Stephen.*

Enclosure 5, in No. 121.

My Lord,

14, Wimpole-street, 15 August 1837.

Encl. 5, in No. 121.

WE have the honour to acknowledge your Lordship's communication of the 9th instant, inviting further information as to the sufficiency of the allowance of farinaceous food now unfortunately brought forward by Sir Carmichael Smyth as a topic of discussion and ill-feeling between the apprenticed labourers of British Guiana and their employers, after having been finally fixed throughout all Her Majesty's colonies previously to the adjudication and payment of their respective awards of compensation.

In support of our opinions, we take the liberty to call your Lordship's attention to the annexed observations which have occurred to us on examining the schedules of allowances by orders in council in the islands of Trinidad and the Mauritius, and by colonial enactments in Barbados and the Bahamas; and we trust that these will be sufficient to satisfy your Lordship of the erroneous opinions entertained by Sir Carmichael Smyth, and at least to induce your Lordship to direct that further opportunity and more time may be afforded to bring additional evidence, if additional evidence be deemed necessary.

As to the general complaints against Sir C. Smyth's administration, which your Lordship, in your letter of the 4th instant, is pleased to declare to be considered as set at rest, we must continue to lament that, if such has been the case, so little satisfaction has been derived from the settlement.

BRITISH GUIANA.

We would presume, also, to call your Lordship's attention to the misconception which has arisen in your Lordship's despatch, No. 232, to Sir Carmichael Smyth, as to opposite views taken by Messrs. M'Turk, Fullarton and Lane and ourselves, respecting the adequacy of the allowances; but having been informed by Mr. Fullarton, who has recently arrived from British Guiana, that he has addressed your Lordship in explanation, we merely notice the circumstance as being consonant with our own impressions.

In conclusion, we must respectfully reiterate the expression of our opinions as to the adequacy of the allowances of food in British Guiana; and we may be permitted to remark, that when coupled with the knowledge that all, or nearly all, the prædial apprenticed labourers in British Guiana have allotments of provision grounds, and that they now receive the same allowances of food for 45 hours, as they did when their employers were entitled to 60 hours of their labour, the justice of our observations must be apparent to every impartial person; and we cannot but deem it most impolitic in the Governor to have opened the question of the sufficiency of a quantity of food, already deemed sufficient by law, and found to be so for upwards of three years, when in three years more the whole system will be entirely changed; thus causing great excitement during a period when a contrary feeling would be so desirable.

We beg to apologize for thus trespassing on your Lordship's time; and have, &c.

The Lord Glenelg,
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *Charles M'Garel.*
William King.
James Cavan.

P. S.—If your Lordship should, from what has been stated, deem it right to wait for further information from the colony on this matter, we would take the liberty to remind your Lordship that in such case it would be indispensable to direct at once a further suspension of the order, which would otherwise come into operation on the 1st November, for it would be impossible that an order from hence, in consequence of any reply from the colony to communications yet to be sent out, could reach the colony till some time after that period.

OBSERVATIONS.

It appears, in reference to the order in council for the island of Trinidad, regulating the allowance of food for the apprenticed labourers, so as to entitle the proprietors to receive their compensation under the Act of Parliament for the Abolition of Slavery, that six pints of wheaten or rye flour, or rice, or nine pints corn-meal, with three pounds and a half of cod or salt fish, were set down as a weekly allowance for adult apprenticed labourers. On reference to the order in council for the island of Mauritius on the same subject, it appears that the same scale or allowance of food which was considered adequate for the island of Trinidad had been precisely adopted for the Mauritius.

In both these instances, the quantity specified as an allowance is less than the allowance fixed for British Guiana by Sir Benjamin D'Urban, and now represented by Sir Carmichael Smyth as insufficient; and in the articles of rye, flour and rice, which last is of greater consumption than any other farinaceous food when plantains become scarce, the difference in favour of British Guiana amounts to four-tenths of the weekly allowance; whilst in the article of salted or cod fish there is a trifling difference of one-seventh in favour of Trinidad and the Mauritius.

In the island of Barbados the allowance of corn is the same as in British Guiana; but the weekly allowance of salted or cod fish is one-third less than that of British Guiana.

In the Bahamas, a weekly allowance of 16 pints of corn, which the labourer has to grind, and which makes about 21 pints of coarse unsifted meal, stands in lieu of fish and every other allowance of food; but when rice is resorted to, then seven quarts or 14 pints is deemed a sufficient allowance, without any other article whatever.

And here some comment may be permitted on the apparently disingenuous statement of Sir Carmichael Smyth, who draws an unfavourable comparison between the scale of allowance in the Bahamas and British Guiana, and directs in his proclamation of 24th April last, that 21 pints of rice and three pounds of salt fish should be taken as a weekly allowance for the labourers in British Guiana, when it must have been in his Excellency's knowledge that 14 pints of rice formed the only allowance of food without fish or any other article whatever, when rice was resorted to as an allowance in the Bahamas.

Enclosure 6, in No. 121.

Encl. 6, in No. 121.

Sir,

With reference to the conversation which Lord Glenelg had the pleasure of holding with you, on the subject of the proclamation issued by the Governor of British Guiana, respecting the allowance of food to the apprenticed labourers in that colony, I am desired by his Lordship to acquaint you, that he would be happy to receive and to consider any further statement which you may wish to make in proof of the sufficiency of the allowance of farinaceous food which was required to be made to the negroes by the former proclamation of Sir Benjamin D'Urban.

J. Gladstone, Esq.

Downing-street, 9 August 1837.
I have, &c.
(signed) *James Stephen.*

Enclosure 7, in No. 121.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Encl. 7, in No. 121.

Sir,

Farque by Fettercairn, 26 August 1837.

YOUR favour of the 9th instant has been forwarded to me, but, owing to absence from home, I have been prevented from both acknowledging and replying to it at an earlier period.

With reference to the communication I had the honour of making to Lord Glenelg, on the subject of Sir J. C. Smyth's late proclamation for increasing the quantity of farinaceous food previously supplied for the use of the apprenticed labourers in the colony of British Guiana, I then stated to his Lordship the facts and material points that were connected with the question, but as this was done verbally, I shall now repeat them in writing.

When there is a want of plantains, the Act of Parliament, which confirmed the allowances required by Sir B. D'Urban's proclamation issued under the authority of an order in council, requires that 10 pints of wheat-flour, Indian corn-meal or rice, shall be weekly supplied for the use of each apprentice; of these, rice is considered the most nutritious, and therefore in such cases preferred. A pint of rice weighs from 14 to 16 ounces, according to the quality; at 14½, the 10 pints are equal to nine pounds; when boiled it increases from four to fivefold in weight, and therefore nine pounds in that state may be taken at an average of 40, or nearly six pounds of boiled rice per diem for each apprentice. I have been informed that this quantity is more than they generally can or do consume; and in evidence of the fact, it is well known that many carry their surplus rice to the market and sell it there; in addition to this food, each apprentice is allowed three pounds of dried salted cod fish weekly, which is also more than they generally consume; they have also the power of fishing in the canals, where I understand fresh fish are abundant; they are each allowed to cultivate as much land as they think proper, and to consume and sell the produce; they are left at liberty to select the best on the estate to which they happen to belong, and sell the stock and ground provisions which they do not consume.

To increase these allowances would, I apprehend, not only be attended with the most injurious consequences to the planters, but were they to be extended to the excessive quantities, it would be ruinous to many, without any adequate object being gained, as it would only extend the supply, which is already proved to be most ample, but it would produce the most injurious consequences on the conduct of the apprentices in the wasteful use of food, which they could not individually consume; in evidence of this fact, I would refer to the law and practice in the other conquered colonies, particularly Trinidad and the Mauritius, where I think the allowance weekly for each apprentice is only six pints, in place of ten, without being made a subject of complaint, as far as my knowledge or information extends, and I think that rice only is used for food by the apprentices in the Mauritius, of all which you, as well as Lord Glenelg, are no doubt aware. In the Bahamas, the weekly allowance is, I believe, 21 pints of Indian corn, not meal, where the apprentice must grind it for himself, without any allowance of salt fish or other food, or the means of producing it.

For these reasons, I trust my Lord Glenelg will be satisfied that the legal provision for the apprentice's food, as stated by the late Governor Sir B. D'Urban's proclamation in 1833, and confirmed by Act of Parliament in 1834, is most ample under the system existing in British Guiana. If his Lordship should desire any further information that it is in my power to supply, I shall be happy and ready to do so.

I have, &c.

James Stephen, Esq. &c. &c. &c.

(signed) John Gladstone.

Enclosure 8, in No. 121.

7, Hanover-street, Hanover-square,

Encl. 8, in No. 121.

11 August 1837.

My Lord,

ON my arrival from Demerara within these few days, Messrs. M'Garel, King and Cavan put into my hands a copy of your Lordship's despatch to Sir James Carmichael Smyth of the 31st ultimo, with which they had been furnished by Mr. Stephen, Under-secretary of State. In that despatch I find the following paragraph: "The only question controverted between yourself on the one hand, and Messrs. M'Turk, Fullarton and Lane on the other, is the lawfulness of your proclamation of the 24th April. In their very elaborate statement of the 10th May, those gentlemen have not attempted to maintain that the allowances of flour and rice provided by Sir Benjamin D'Urban's proclamation are really adequate to the maintenance of the labourer, and from their silence on this head it may be inferred, that they regarded the opinion of the Lieutenant-governor as incontrovertible."

As I am the Mr. Fullarton alluded to, I trust your Lordship will permit me to offer a few words in explanation.

The first head of the document of the 10th May commences thus:—

"Your Excellency has stated that the allowance of plantains and of salt fish now supplied to the apprenticed labourers of British Guiana is ample, and that no friend of such labourers can desire to see this allowance augmented. In the propriety of this opinion we most humbly and heartily concur. If, however, it be meant by your Excellency that any inference is in consequence to arise unfavourable to the equal sufficiency of the other provisions

BRITISH GUIANA. sions which may now by law be delivered in the lieu of plantains, we are satisfied that such inference would be entirely erroneous."

I humbly conceive that the fair interpretation of these passages is, that it was the opinion of the writers that the allowances of flour and rice were not merely "adequate," but that they were "ample," not less in "sufficiency" than the allowance of plantains. That such was the opinion is made manifest by the declaration that a solitary instance of complaint by slave or apprentice was unknown "within the wide extent of British Guiana." But had these or similar indications of opinion been wanting, I should deny the justice of the inference drawn from silence; I should venture to maintain that the opposition offered to the increase was of itself "incontrovertible" evidence of the opinion that the allowances were adequate; had it been otherwise, I can solemnly declare for myself, and I am safe in declaring for the gentlemen with whom I was associated, that no question would have been raised on the legality of the increase. The legal ground was only taken as a defence against what was considered an unjust and oppressive measure.

Having disposed of the misconception which gave rise to my addressing your Lordship, I trust that the part I took in the proceedings in the colony will be thought to justify my venturing to offer some observations on the course pointed out to the Governor as expedient to be pursued.

As a proprietor, I do not profess to be qualified to judge, and far less to discuss, legal niceties; but it appears to me that the power assumed by the Governor is destructive of the rights secured to the apprentices by the Abolition Act. If it be competent to the Governor to increase, it is equally competent to him to diminish the allowances. Had the power been exercised in diminution, the apprentices would have been entitled to deny the authority, not only under the 11th section of the Act of Parliament, but also under the interpretation of the framer of that Act, Lord Stanley, who, in his despatch to the Governor, No. 90, dated 24th May 1834, says that the "schedules" of food in operation on the passing of the Act must continue in force during the apprenticeship. This deliberate and clear opinion of the Secretary of State left no doubt on the minds of the planters but that the Abolition Act imposed the "schedule" during the existence of the apprenticeship, and all transactions subsequent to the passing of the Act have been founded on that belief. I am not prepared to say that an overruling necessity may not arise for the temporary substitution of food not mentioned in the schedule; but to men of common understanding in the colony, it did appear that of the food mentioned in the schedule, the Act of Parliament and Lord Stanley's explanation alike deprived the Governor of all authority under any previous order in council.

This question of right, however, I wish to dismiss, and to impress on your Lordship that its settlement will not close up the wound that has been opened; and I must be permitted to deplore that your Lordship's instructions to the Governor should make the subject one of legal discussion,—indeed narrow it to that. Such discussion, however it may terminate, must be attended with injurious consequences. It will present the unseemly spectacle of masters resorting to legal technicality to deprive those under them of food; to the apprentices, it will exhibit the Governor as their friend contending against their enemies, and the decision will be received as a party triumph, and this great evil will leave the most important question untouched, namely, whether the allowances in the schedule are or are not sufficient. Taking this view of the subject, I implore your Lordship to reconsider the despatch of the 31st July. Of all the complaints brought against the planters in British Guiana by their enemies, I believe a desire to withhold necessary food has not been in the number; indeed it is notorious that the allowances have been framed on a scale of liberality which may challenge comparison with that of any other colony.

I have to claim your Lordship's attention to the circumstance, that the Governor's proclamation is only suspended to the 1st November, a period, not of four, but of three months: may I hope that he will be instructed to suspend it indefinitely?

I have, &c.

(signed) Gavin Fullarton.

Enclosure 9, in No. 121.

Encl. 9, in No. 121.

Sir,

Downing-street, 25 August 1837.

I AM directed by Lord Glenelg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant, explanatory of your opinions in regard to the proclamation issued by the Governor of British Guiana for increasing the allowance of provisions to the apprenticed labourers in that colony.

His Lordship is glad to have been afforded an opportunity of correcting any wrong impression which he may have entertained regarding your views on the subject. He finds that you do not, as he had inferred, acquiesce in the judgment of Sir J. C. Smyth, but that you consider the farinaceous food allowed by Sir B. D'Urban's proclamation as adequate to the maintenance of the apprenticed labourers. Lord Glenelg would be happy to be apprized of the grounds on which that opinion rests, and would especially invite your attention to a comparison between the amount of those allowances, and the provisions allowed by law for the maintenance of negroes in the Bahama Islands and in the gaols of Jamaica, and those allowed for the maintenance of inmates of workhouses and of the public gaols in this country, and the rations allowed to Her Majesty's navy and army when on actual service.

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service. If there be any other standard of comparison to which you may be of opinion that reference can be more justly and accurately made, Lord Glenelg would be happy to be informed of the result of such comparison. Until he shall be in receipt of that information, his Lordship will not be able to advert to the recommendation with which your letter concludes.

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I have, &c.

(signed) *James Stephen.*

— No. 122. —

(No. 378.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth, Bart.*, to Lord Glenelg.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 11 September 1837.

No. 122.

WITH reference to the despatch of your Lordship dated the 31st July, No. 232, I beg to lay before your Lordship the opinion of the Attorney-general relative to the mode of proceeding as suggested by your Lordship, in order to bring the question of the legality of my proclamation of the 24th April 1837 before the supreme court of civil justice in this colony. I beg respectfully to state, that I most completely concur in the opinion of the Attorney-general; and I am induced, consequently, to express my hope that your Lordship will deem it advisable that my proclamation of the 24th April 1837 shall be confirmed and approved of, according to the 117th section of the order in council of the 2d November 1831, by Her Majesty in Council. It is very true that, by the same section, my proclamation is to be considered as having the force of law until disallowed by the Crown. A proclamation, however, which has only not been disallowed, and one which has been confirmed and approved of by Her Majesty in Council, I need hardly observe to your Lordship (although, strictly speaking, equally legal instruments), yet will not be so viewed or considered by the inhabitants in general. The proclamation in question, if confirmed and approved of by Her Majesty in Council, will be all but implicitly obeyed. If only not disallowed, it will be opposed by every legal subtlety.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth.*

Enclosure in No. 122.

Sir,

Demerara, 9 September 1837.

Encl. in No. 122.

I HAVE read with attention the despatch of the Right honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated the 31st July 1837, handed to me by command of his Excellency the Governor, and in which Lord Glenelg, referring particularly to the proclamation of the 24th April last, issued here, relative to the food of the apprenticed labourers, expresses his opinion that the question of the legality of that proclamation should be brought before the judges of the supreme court of civil justice for their decision.

The proclamation itself is at present suspended, and will remain suspended until the 1st day of November next, and if I could bring this question before the court of civil justice in the way suggested by his Lordship, considerable delay would inevitably ensue, as I could not do so until subsequently to the period when the proclamation would come into operation; and as the case would then go through the ordinary roll process of our court, which his Lordship is perhaps aware is a very dilatory process, a decision of the court upon the question could not be hoped for for many months. I, however, could originate no suit which would bring this question to adjudication before the supreme court, as that tribunal tries questions of property from 20*l.* sterling and upwards, and any case which would arise under the proclamation would be simply a question as to the sufficiency of food supplied to the apprenticed labourer, and that point would come before and be decided by the special justice of the district.

If the special justice enforces the scale of provisions fixed by the proclamation of the 24th of April 1837 (as he will feel it his duty to do after the 1st November), there can be no doubt (as his Lordship seems to anticipate) that the decision of the special justice will be resisted, and that an action will be brought against him either for false imprisonment or for restitution of any penalties which he may impose, and which the party convicted may have been compelled to pay for refusing to supply to the apprenticed labourers the provisions required by the proclamation, and when such a case occurs, I shall be called upon to undertake the defence of the special justice, and to support the proclamation, and (in this way) the question which his Lordship wishes to be brought before the judges will come before them for decision.

I have, &c.

(signed) *William Furlonge, Attorney-general.*

To the Hon. Henry Fox Young,
Government Secretary.

(No. 268.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart.

No. 123.

Sir,

Downing-street, 15 November 1837.

SINCE I addressed to you my despatch, No. 267, of the 11th inst., I have received your despatch, No. 378, of the 11th September, with the opinion of the Attorney-general of British Guiana relative to the mode of proceeding which I had suggested with a view to decide the question of the legality of your proclamation of the 24th April last. The reasons alleged by the Attorney-general against the course which I had suggested appear to be conclusive ; and, although I regret that no judicial solution of this question can be obtained until after my ultimate decision as to bringing the proclamation into operation has been formed, I am not aware of any escape from this difficulty. Under these circumstances, I have only to express my hope that you will be able, at an early period, to transmit to me the information which I have asked for in my despatch of the 11th inst. On the receipt of that information, my final instructions will be given with as little delay as possible. In the mean time, the proclamation will continue suspended.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

(No. 391.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 124.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 25 October 1837.

I HAD the honour to report to your Lordship, upon the 29th April, in my despatch, No. 310, that I had suspended for a period of six months the operation of the enactments promulgated in my proclamation of the 24th April 1837, relative to the additional quantities of rice or of corn-meal required to be issued to the apprenticed labourers of this colony, whenever those articles of food are served out in lieu of plantains, beyond the allowance directed in the proclamation published by Sir Benjamin D'Urban upon the 18th January 1833.

The period of the suspension of the regulations contained in my proclamation as aforesaid will cease in a few days ; and it has consequently become imperative upon me either to be prepared to enforce the enactments alluded to, or to continue their suspension. In my despatch of the 11th September, No. 378, I have had the honour to explain to your Lordship the difficulties I should encounter were I to attempt to bring the question of the legality of my proclamation before the court of justice of this colony, previously to the confirmation of the same by Her Majesty in Council, as required by the order in council of the 6th November 1832. I have, moreover, had the honour, in my despatch of the 28th August, No. 371, to forward to your Lordship a petition from the proprietors and other inhabitants of the district of Berbice, addressed to Her Majesty in Council, praying that the additional quantities of rice and of corn-meal, as directed by my proclamation, may be disallowed.

As, under the circumstances I have detailed, the subject may be said to be before Her Majesty, I have felt that (putting the opposition I should experience entirely out of the question) it would be indecorous in me to precipitate the adoption of a measure which will, in so short a period, either be confirmed or be disallowed by Her Majesty in Council. I have therefore deemed it my duty to issue a proclamation, suspending the operation of my proclamation of the 24th April 1837 until the pleasure of Her Majesty in Council shall have been communicated upon the subject.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth*.

—No. 125.—

(No. 397.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 3 November 1837.

No. 125.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 15th September, No. 247; and it afforded me much pleasure to find that I had anticipated your instructions upon the subject of my proclamation regarding the additional quantities of rice and of corn-meal to be issued to the apprenticed labourers in this colony, whenever those articles of food are given as a substitute for 70 pounds of plantains.

In my former communications, I have so fully pointed out both the legality and the propriety of the measure I adopted, that it would be only very unnecessarily occupying your Lordship's time if I was to repeat either the facts or the arguments by which my conduct has been influenced. I will only add, that I observe, in Mr. Gladstone's proposed agreement with the hill coolies from Bengal, that 14 pounds of rice, which weight gives $15\frac{1}{2}$ pints, are to be the weekly allowance of a labouring man. We have here, at once, an allowance more by one-third than the 10 pints which the Demerara gentlemen, who have addressed themselves to your Lordship upon the subject, assert to be sufficient food for a labouring negro.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth*.

—No. 126.—

(No. 285.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart.

Sir,

Downing-street, 1 January 1838.

No. 126.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches, No. 391, of the 25th October, and No. 397, of the 3d November, on the subject of your proclamation of the 24th April last, respecting the additional allowance of farinaceous food to the apprentices. As in my despatch, No. 267, of the 11th November, I have entered fully into this question, I abstain from any further discussion of it until I shall have received your reply to that despatch. I have only, therefore, in answer to your present communications, to convey to you my approval of the course which in the mean time you have adopted with reference to this subject.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

—No. 127.—

(No. 8.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 17 January 1838.

No. 127.

I HAVE perused, with every attention, your Lordship's despatch of the 11th November, No. 267, together with the correspondence which has taken place between your Lordship's Under-secretary of State, on the one side, and Messrs. McGarel, King and Cavan, Gladstone and Fullarton, on the other, relative to the proposed augmentation of the quantities of rice or of Indian corn-meal when issued to the apprenticed labourers in this colony as a succedaneum for the 70 pounds of plantains which form their weekly allowance of farinaceous food.

In obedience to your Lordship's commands, I have called upon the special justices for their opinions upon the subject under discussion; and I have the honour to enclose copies of their several reports. Having carefully considered their statements, I am of opinion that 14 pounds of rice, or 21 pounds of Indian corn-meal, being at the rate of two pounds of rice, or of three pounds of corn-meal per day, may be substituted for the weekly allowance of 70 pounds of plantains, or at the daily rate of 10 pounds of plantains. It is requisite that, in order to prevent disputes about broken periods, the daily as well as the weekly

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allowance of the three descriptions of farinaceous food should each be detailed or specified. I beg further to suggest, that these allowances should be issued by weight, and not by measurement, in consequence of a recommendation to that effect as contained in one of the reports from the special justices. I take the liberty further of adding, that it will be very advisable that the decision of the special justice, in all disputes respecting the quality as well as the quantity of the food of every species, should be declared to be final, and without appeal.

I have purposely avoided making any observations upon the arguments adduced by those gentlemen, who, in their correspondence with Mr. Stephen, have expressed themselves so hostile to any augmentation to the existing customary allowances of rice or of corn-meal when issued in lieu of plantains. I beg, however, to draw your Lordship's attention to the practical good that this colony has already derived from the discussion of the subject, as explained in the report from special justice Coleman, in the augmented cultivation of the plantain. The point of view in which, in my public letter to Messrs. M'Turk, Fullarton and Lane, I placed the mistaken policy of allowing the food of the labourer to be imported, instead of being raised upon the estate to which he was bound to render his services, has had a very good effect; and many additional plantain walks have, in consequence, been established.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 127.

Encl. 1, in No. 127.

Sir,

Sparta, 11 January 1838.

IN reply to your letter of 23d ultimo, which arrived when I was in the Pomeroon, I beg to state, for the information of his Excellency, that the following estates never, except under peculiar circumstances of unusually unfavourable weather, have occasion to serve rice or corn-meal to their labourers, being in the habit of supplying other estates which do not cultivate plantains.

These plantations are the two large and two small cultivated estates in the lower Pomeroon, viz. Caledonia, Dunbarton Castle, Phoenix Park, and Land of Promise; and on the coast plantations, Exmouth, Perth, Better Success, and Evergreen. The other estates from Exmouth up to La Belle Alliance, eight in number, all serve out rice or corn-meal occasionally, either in part or as entire allowance to their labourers. Devonshire Castle will soon be enabled to supply full allowances of plantains, without having recourse to any substitutes. Other estates have of late considerably increased their plantain walks, especially since the proclamation ordering 21 pints to be served out.

As to the quantity of these articles which would suffice for the support of a strong hard-working labourer, in my opinion, a quart a day would not exceed what he would use, with three pounds of salt fish per week, and this is supposing the rice to be of the very best quality, which often is not the case, although, perhaps, not so bad as to warrant its being absolutely rejected.

I have taken some trouble to inform myself upon this subject, the more so as many painful complaints have come before me from apprenticed labourers stating that they were obliged to take rice in place of plantains, although they could not eat rice, which disagreed with them. In some cases I have known them to take half allowance of plantains in place of the full 10 pints of rice, and this as a favour.

But the question put to me is not only what I consider sufficient for the nourishment of an able-bodied labourer, but also what I deem equivalent to 70 lbs. of plantains? In this view of the question, I should say that I myself, and, in my opinion, most if not all the apprenticed labourers, would hardly consider double the present allowance of rice to be an equivalent for two bunches of plantains weighing 70 lbs.

Surely when the legislature assigned so liberal a quantity of this most excellent food for the weekly support of each apprenticed labourer, it must have been with the humane intention of not confining him to what was barely sufficient for his or her individual food. It may have been considered that many of them had families of free children, whom the new law had thrown entirely on their hands for support, and that some of them, from age or weakness, would not be able to support them by the proceeds of their extra work. These young children are wholly dependent on what their parents can spare out of their weekly allowance, but for this purpose the 10 pints of rice are totally inadequate, being a very short allowance, even for the parents alone. The insufficiency of the 10 pints of rice or meal was lately admitted to me by the manager of plantation Lima, who said that he had long been in the habit of serving 12 pints, with the sanction of his employer. Several managers were present, who said they would be glad to do so too, but that their attorneys, in place of suggesting an increase of allowance, were constantly complaining of their being too profuse in the use of the provisions which they then supplied them with.

I deem it proper also to state other serious evils arising from this great disproportion in the several articles of food, as laid down in the scale. It has come to my knowledge, in

many

many instances, that managers, when they supplied the gang generally with plantains, selected certain individuals to whom they gave rice; I cannot pretend to say whether the grounds of complaint they had against the labourers, whom they contrived in this way to punish, were well founded or frivolous, but it appears to me to be far from desirable that the law should put it into the power of any class of men to inflict severe suffering on their dependents, at their own discretion, and without any interference of the magistrate.

Such power will unfortunately remain, in too many cases, in spite of the wisest legislation, but in this case it is created directly by the law.

(A true copy.)
(signed) *H. E. F. Young, Esq.*
Government Secretary.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. J. Brittain, s. j. p.*

Enclosure 2, in No. 127.

JUDICIAL DISTRICT A.

Sir,

Lower Division, 30 December 1837.

Encl. 2, in No. 127.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your circular confidential of the 23d instant, and hasten to answer it.

1. The only estate where rice or Indian corn-meal is served out to the labourers continually is plantation Dochfour, the plantain walk of which Mr. Reed, the proprietor, gave up to his people on the 1st August 1834; on the other plantations in my district, or connected therewith, there are thriving and extensive plantain lands, from which the labourers are weekly supplied in due proportions, according to law; still, however, upon many of the estates when plantains are short there is an occasional allowance of rice or corn-meal given to them, which kind of allowance will perhaps bear an average of from five to fifteen upon those estates during the year.

2. I have often read the scale of food appended to the ordinance 43, and I have as often said that there must have been some error in framing it, reasoning thus, "that either 70 lbs. of plantains were too much, or 10 pints of rice or corn-meal too little;" for, in point of actual sustenance, they are not, in my opinion, to be compared with each other; now my experience has taught me that an able-bodied labourer can easily consume his two bunches of plantains per week; I am therefore led to infer that 10 pints of rice or corn-meal is insufficient for a continued weekly allowance.

3. I can hardly form an opinion as to "what quantity of rice or corn-meal would be equivalent to 70 lbs. of plantains," and I tender my thoughts on the subject with much diffidence, but I would certainly say that it ought to be from 15 to 18 pints.

Upon plantation Greenfield, the indented Africans prefer 14 pints of rice per week each to two bunches of plantains, and have actually refused the latter to obtain the first; this is, however, an isolated case.

The Hon. *H. E. F. Young,*
Government Secretary.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Strutt, s. j. p.*

Enclosure 3, in No. 127.

UPPER DISTRICT A.

Sir,

31 December 1837.

Encl. 3, in No. 127.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your confidential circular of the 23d instant, and to report to you, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that rice and Indian corn-meal are occasionally issued on all the estates in this district; but on no one estate are those articles issued to the apprenticed labourers exclusively. That since his Excellency's proclamation of the 24th of April last was published, greater attention has been paid to the cultivation of plantains than before; the consequence is, that on many estates they rarely issue any thing in lieu thereof; and on the others, where there may not have been such large crops, or where accidents may have happened, they purchase them; so as, in general, to issue one-half of the weekly allowance in plantains, and the other half in rice or Indian corn-meal.

I have also the honour to state my opinion, that 14 lbs. of rice, or 18 lbs. of Indian corn-meal, are equal to 70 lbs. of plantains, and sufficient for the nourishment of an able-bodied labourer during the period of a week; and that the grounds upon which I have founded my opinion are, 1st, Taking into consideration the reduction in the weight of the plantains, by divesting them of stalks, skins, such as may be damaged, &c.; 2dly, That when the labourers have complained of the insufficiency of rice or corn-meal issued (10 lbs.), they have always appeared satisfied when two or three measures have been added to that allowance; and, 3dly, That they invariably prefer rice to corn-meal, by reason of the former yielding a much greater quantity of food.

To the Hon. *H. E. F. Young,*
Government Secretary, &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Thos. Coleman, s. j. p.*

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Enclosure 4, in No. 127.

Encl. 4, in No. 127.

Sir,

George Town, 15 January 1838.

In the statement contained in my letter of the 13th instant, that I consider about 35 pints of Indian corn-meal as the lowest equivalent which could in justice be offered to the apprenticed labourers of this colony in lieu of 70 lbs. of plantains, perhaps I have not been sufficiently explicit with regard to the data on which I founded that opinion.

For persons who have been accustomed to Indian corn as their usual food, as is the case with the majority of the articulated labourers imported from the W. I. Islands, 20 pints of Indian corn-meal, or thereabouts, might be quite a sufficient equivalent for 70 lbs. of plantains, and equally nutritious; but, with the apprenticed labourers of this colony, it is otherwise.

Besides their absolute dislike for this particular article of food, which ought not to be altogether disregarded, in making calculations for their comfort and happiness, Indian corn-meal is said to have a laxative effect, accompanied with some degree of debility, when it is substituted for the daily food of persons who have been previously accustomed to live on rice or plantains. This, at least, is asserted by the apprenticed labourers themselves, and, I am inclined to think, not altogether without reason. At any rate, rice of the lowest quality is almost universally preferred to Indian corn-meal by the negro creoles of this colony, as well as by the old Africans; and if the maxim of Hudibras is allowed to be just, that

"The worth of any thing
Is just as much as it will bring,"

I do not think that I have overshot the mark.

I have, &c.

To the Hon. H. E. F. Young,
Government Secretary.

(signed) George Ross, S. J. P.

Enclosure 5, in No. 127.

Encl. 5, in No. 127.

Sir,

George Town, 13 January 1838.

WITH reference to the confidential circular of 23d ult., I have the honour to report that, among the apprenticed labourers on the plantations contiguous to George Town, five pints of good clean Carolina rice are considered an equivalent for a bunch of plantains weighing at an average 17 or 18 lbs.; but that East Indian or African rice is a much less valuable article in exchange, leaving its nutritive qualities out of the question.

On those plantations where the allowance is supplied in rice, it is not unusual for the apprenticed labourers to barter part of it with their neighbours, who are fed with plantains, and *vice versa*.

From these circumstances, and after sounding one or two intelligent persons in George Town, in whose opinion I can place confidence, I conclude that 20 pints of good Carolina rice, or 25 pints of clean whole Indian or African, or 30 pints of dirty or broken but sound merchantable Indian or African rice, would be an equivalent for 70 lbs. of plantains.

Indian corn-meal is not at present supplied on any of the plantations in my district; but it is generally disliked as a permanent article of diet by the negro creoles of this colony. I should, however, consider about 35 pints of Indian corn-meal the lowest equivalent which would in justice be substituted for 70 lbs. of plantains; and that not so much for the actual consumption of the apprenticed labourers, as to afford them an opportunity of exchanging it for other articles of diet more to their taste. I may further remark, that where rice or Indian corn-meal is furnished to the apprenticed labourers in this neighbourhood for their allowance, a good deal of it generally finds its way to town, where it is hawked about or sold in the market; not, as might at first sight be supposed, owing to the superfluity of food furnished by the employer, but because most of the apprenticed labourers in this district, either by raising provisions or by grass-cutting, are able to indulge themselves, at their own expense, in their favourite diet.

I have, &c.

To the Hon. H. E. F. Young,
Government Secretary.

(signed) George Ross, S. J. P.

Enclosure 6, in No. 127.

DISTRICT C.

Encl. 6, in No. 127.

Sir,

6 January 1838.

In reply to your letter of the 23d ult., I have the honour to report that rice or corn-meal is occasionally issued on the majority of estates in this district.

On some estates the issue of corn-meal and rice is more frequent than on others, depending either on the price of plantains, or their abundance on the property.

I consider 16 pints of Carolina rice, 21 pints of African or East Indian rice, or 16 pints of Indian corn-meal, as equivalent to 70 lbs. weight of plantains, or rather as a reasonable substitute for the same.

Where rice alone has been given for the weekly allowance, it is generally found that the 10 pints issued on the Monday afternoon has been exhausted on the Thursday morning; the labourers for the remainder of the week being thrown on their own resources.

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An intelligent and liberal proprietor long since candidly acknowledged to me, that 10 pints of rice was quite inadequate for the support of a labouring man, and that he invariably gave 14 pints to his people when he could not procure plantains.

As rice is seldom issued but in conjunction with plantains, few complaints are made on the subject.

It is seldom that more than half an allowance of corn-meal is issued at a time; but in any case it proves an unwholesome food as prepared by the labourers of this colony, and its issue is usually productive of complaints and discontent.

My own judgment and experience on the above subjects, strengthened by the repeated complaints and representations of the apprentices themselves, has been confirmed by the confidential testimony of some intelligent foremen of estates, on whose veracity I could place great reliance.

It may be necessary to add, that no quantity of rice or corn-meal which a labourer can consume will afford him the same nourishment as the legal allowance of plantains; and that it is the frequent practice of the apprentices sullenly to receive from their employers two small bunches of plantains (weighing, perhaps, together 35 to 40 lbs.), rather than have to put up with the 10 pints of rice or corn-meal, which would be given him on refusal, as prescribed by the ordinance.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. A. Allen, S. J. P.*

Honourable Henry E. F. Young,
Government Secretary, &c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 7, in No. 127.

Sir,

31 December 1837.

Encl. 7, in No. 127.

IN acknowledging the receipt of his Excellency the Governor's confidential circular of the 23d instant, I have the honour to inform you, the plantations serving rice (occasionally) in lieu of plantains (corn-meal not appearing to be used) are, viz., Greenwich Park, St. Christopher's, Philadelphia, Vergoenegen Tuschen de Vrienden, Zeelught, De Kindren, Met-en-Meerzorg, William and Zeeberg, but whenever they can procure plantains they are issued. On the Uitolught and Vrees-en-Hoop, rice is only served when their stock of plantains fail, they having plantain walks on their estates.

I do think 10 (Dutch) pints of rice is not commensurate with 70 lbs. of plantains, without reference to bunches, and my reason for so thinking is this, viz., 70 lbs. of plantains appear at the first sound and sight an immense quantity of food for any one person to consume in a week, but when the skins thereof are taken from them and the stems of the bunches, they do not weigh near half the quantity, consequently, although that remaining quantity must be considered to be more than any one person can consume, still the 10 pints of rice is every way inadequate, particularly when it is considered there is no other food but salt fish, which from its quantity can only be considered as a relish to the plantains or rice, which former article they have many ways of dressing, viz., roasting, boiling, making into fou-fow, or into fou-fow soup with other ingredients; rice must be boiled.

I should think 15 pints a fair proportion to issue, both to the labourer and to the employer, rice being by no means a solid food; and it must be borne in mind the imperial measure is not in use in this colony, the old Dutch weights and measures being still in use here. I beg to state my opinion with reference to a hard-labouring person.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Thos. Delafons, S. J. P.*

The Honourable H. E. F. Young,
Government Secretary, &c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 8, in No. 127.

Sir,

Leguan, 27 December 1837.

Encl. 8, in No. 127.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 23d instant. In this district there are not more than two or three estates on which sufficient plantains are grown to supply their labourers all the year round. Many of the others have small plantain walks, and which they have been enlarging during the last six months; but they chiefly depend on the east and west coasts of Demerara for their supplies of plantains. As long as plantains can be procured at a reasonable rate they are issued to the labourers; but on an average, I think that on the 44 sugar estates in this district, rice is the allowance for four months out of the twelve. Corn-meal is seldom or never used while rice can be procured.

With respect to the quantities of rice or corn-meal which ought to be given to the labourer instead of plantains, and equivalent as an article of food to 70 lbs. of plantains, and consequently for the nourishment of an able-bodied labourer during the period of a week, I conceive the allowance ought to be,

14 pints per week first quality rice.
17 - ditto - second ditto.
20 - ditto - third ditto.
20 - ditto - corn-meal.

From repeated and minute personal observations and inquiries, I am satisfied two pints of best rice per day is not more than an able-bodied labourer can eat. But even this I do not think

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an equivalent to plantains, for rice cooked in any manner can never form such solid food as plantains; and in every country it is an established fact, that a labourer who performs heavy work ought to have at least one meal of solid food per day. This is so well understood here, that the planter never gives his people rice except when it is considerably cheaper than plantains; and the labourers, when they get an allowance of rice, always sell a portion in order to procure some other article of food. Corn-meal makes a more solid food than rice, but the labourers do not understand the art of cooking it, and dislike it for an allowance. Corn-meal ought to be served out by weight and not measure, for a pint can be made to contain one pound of meal or half a pound, according to the mode of filling it.

According to the present regulations, as there is no distinction made between the qualities of rice, a premium is held out to the planter to issue an inferior article to his people. I conceive that when rice is issued, a certain quantity of salt pork or beef ought to be given with it, which would be more agreeable to the labourer than giving him an increased quantity of rice. The people never complain when they are fed on salt fish and plantains, but are not satisfied with salt fish and rice, and always cook a piece of pork with their rice.

The Hon. H. E. F. Young,
Government Secretary, &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) Geo. Kellock, s. J. P.
District F.

Enclosure 9, in No. 127.

Encl. 9, in No. 127.

Sir,

District G., 11 January 1838.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23d December last, which did not reach me until the 7th instant, and beg leave to state, that of the 23 estates comprised in this district, there is not one upon which rice and Indian corn-meal are not issued more or less frequently; there are, however, six provided with plantain walks, nearly sufficient to afford a regular supply of plantains; and I am glad to have it in my power to add, that proprietors begin to turn their attention to their culture, and I think in a short time a good number of estates will be well supplied with them.

In reply to the inquiry as to my opinion of the quantity of each of the first-mentioned articles of food which I may consider equal to 70 lbs. of plantains, I beg leave to observe, that although I cannot believe the present allowance of 10 pints of either to be an equivalent, yet if I were to judge from the general healthy appearance of the apprenticed labourers, and the absence of any complaint upon the subject, I should be disposed to think it otherwise. But this apparent sufficiency is unquestionably to be attributed to the addition of their diet derived from the esculent roots and vegetables raised by themselves on the grounds here almost universally allowed them by proprietors, and cannot, of course, be taken into account in the consideration of the present question.

Fourteen pints of rice or 16 of Indian corn-meal are the quantities of each of these articles of food which would, in my opinion, be equivalent to 70 lbs. of plantains, and consequently sufficient (with the allowance of fish) for the sustenance of an able-bodied labourer during the period of a week—a conclusion to which I have arrived in some measure from my own observation, and further, from the result of such inquiries as I have been enabled to make consistently with the confidential nature of the subject.

To Hon. H. E. F. Young,
Government Secretary, George Town.

I have, &c.
(signed) George Ball, s. J. P.

Enclosure 10, in No. 127.

Encl. 10, in No. 127.

Sir,

La Retraite, District D., 10 January 1838.

IN obedience to your circular confidential letter of the 23d ultimo, directing me to report, for his Excellency the Governor's information, the number of estates in the district under my charge in which rice or Indian corn-meal is issued to labourers instead of plantains, and my opinion, with the grounds on which it may be formed, as to the quantities of the articles of food which may be deemed equivalent to 70 lbs. of plantains, I have the honour to report, that, as far as I have been able to ascertain, the invariable practice in this district is to give the labourers' allowance of food in corn-meal or rice and in plantains in equal portions, that is, half in meal or rice and half in plantains, except on rare occasions, when plantains cannot be had, either from their own estates or at the market, at which times the allowance is made up entirely of corn-meal or rice. All the cultivated estates have plantain walks, but some yield very little, and only five from which regular sales to any valuable extent can be made.

As to the quantity of rice or corn-meal which may be equivalent to 70 lbs. of plantains, I cannot speak with any degree of certainty. I believe 70 lbs. of plantains cannot be consumed by any labourer; but as to the present legal quantity of rice or corn-meal, I do think it too little for an able-bodied labourer. Such a person would require, in my opinion, 14 or 15 pints, instead of 10, for a week's allowance. I give this opinion, partly from experience in feeding labourers at home with meal (I take it, rice is not more nourishing), and partly from the statements of labourers here, to the effect that 10 pints is too little.

The Honourable H. E. F. Young,
Government Secretary.

I have, &c.
(signed) D. M' Lennan.

Enclosure 11, in No. 127.

Encl. 11, in No. 127.

Sir,

Richmond, 8 January 1838.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23d ultimo, requiring me to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, the number of estates under my charge on which rice or Indian corn-meal is issued to the labourers instead of plantains, and my opinion as to the quantity of each of these articles of food I may deem equivalent to 70 lbs. of plantains, sufficient consequently for the nourishment of an able-bodied labourer during the period of a week.

There are two estates under my charge on which rice or Indian corn-meal is generally issued instead of plantains. On another (plantation Aberdeen) the weekly allowance consists, one-half of plantains, the other of corn-meal.

The two estates which generally issue rice or corn-meal are Henrietta and Anna Regina; in the case of the latter, however, it is done in compliance with the taste of the labourers on that plantation. The greatest part of them are natives of Bahama; and they prefer having Indian corn unground; accordingly, the representatives of the estate have ordered, I am informed, a large quantity of corn from America, and have sent to England for mills to be distributed to the labourers.

I have been assured that when plantains have been served on that estate, many have offered to take half an allowance of rice in preference to the full allowance of plantains. Biscuits, commonly called bread, is often issued to the labourers on Anna Regina.

Indian corn-meal I believe to be much more nutritious than rice. As a constant article of food, rice is perhaps one of the worst that can be issued to labourers. In all countries where it is the sole or chief article of food (in India for example), the physical energies of the people are greatly inferior to those of our labouring population.

The quantities, however, of rice or Indian corn-meal which, according to the schedule of allowances attached to ordinance, No. 43, may be issued in lieu of plantains, I believe to be sufficient "for the nourishment of an able-bodied labourer during the period of a week." My opinion has been formed partly from my knowledge of those articles of food, but more from the circumstance, that no complaints were made by the labourers of insufficiency of food at a time when, from the scarcity of plantains, these articles were generally issued. I also remarked, at the time alluded to, that very liberal supplies of the same articles of food were furnished by the labourers to their feathered and other stock—a pretty good proof that they themselves were neither exposed to the cravings of hunger, or limited to the bare supply of their wants.

There had also been a great neglect, on the part of the labourers, of their provision grounds, and, consequently, few could have added to their allowances from that source.

Though 10 pints of rice or Indian corn-meal are, in my opinion, sufficient for the nourishment of an able-bodied labourer during the period of a week, I do not deem them equivalent to 70 lbs. of plantains. The allowance of plantains is far beyond what any one man can possibly consume; the plantain also is generally admitted to be a more nutritious article of food. It would be very desirable if, on all estates where the labourers are partial to the plantain, that article of food should be issued to them. Unfortunately, however, there are several estates on which it cannot be reared. On four or five within my district, it cannot be cultivated to any extent; and it is not at all times that plantains can be purchased.

The proclamation of his Excellency, of 24th April last, has had the good effect of stimulating the planters to a more extensive cultivation of the plantain, where practicable. I think it would be highly advantageous to have a constant stimulus to its cultivation; but, with deference, I would beg to offer my opinion, that an increase in quantity of the substituted articles which may be issued for allowances in lieu of plantains will not materially aid in the attainment of this object, and (especially if that increase be considerable) will not be (generally) beneficial to the labourers.

An increase of the quantities of rice or Indian corn-meal required to be given for a weekly allowance may induce many (particularly proprietors or representatives of estates on which the plantain cannot be cultivated) to maintain their labourers by the appropriation of land, and, consequently, to a certain extent, decrease the demand for plantains. If all our labourers were able-bodied, such a change on the mode of maintaining them might be beneficial; but how different would be the condition of the infirm, the old and the young!

His Excellency is aware that great excitement was caused by the publication of his proclamation of the 24th April. Had that proclamation been enforced, I know it was the general intention on this coast to have withheld the allowances given to the free children, and all allowances at the holidays and at other times, of sugar, rum, tobacco, &c.; in fact, to have restricted the allowances to the strict letter of the law. Such, I fear, will be the consequence of any important change in the schedule of allowances.

It certainly appears to have been the intention of the legislative council to make the issue of plantains the general rule, and of the other articles of farinaceous food the exception. To enforce this, I presume, was the chief object of his Excellency in that proclamation.

It is with diffidence I presume to offer any suggestions of my own, but it has occurred to me that an improvement in the regulation for the maintenance of the labourers, which would fully effect his Excellency's intention, and produce many benefits, might be introduced; and that simply by leaving it to the option of the labourer, when he cannot have plantains, to take either the regulated allowance of rice or corn-meal, or its equivalent in money. I do not apprehend to so slight a change any serious opposition on the part of the planters, as it can be a matter of very little importance to them whether their labourers give a preference to the

BRITISH GUIANA. one or the other, since to themselves, in a pecuniary point of view, there can be no material loss.

The interest I take in the calm and successful working of the apprenticeship, and in the welfare of both parties interested in it, will, I trust, plead my excuse for entering into the detail of some of the advantages which I anticipate would result from the adoption of a partial money-payment in lieu of an issue of food to the labourers.

1. As a money-payment can only be demanded when plantains are not offered, it will act as a constant stimulant to the cultivation of the plantain, while, from making its acceptance optional with the labourer, he cannot be left destitute of food.

2. It will incite the labourer to the cultivation of his provision grounds (which of late have been much neglected), and thereby promote in him habits of industry and economy.

3. It will put an end to the frequent irritations which arise from the distribution of articles of food not palatable to the labourer.

4. It will check that indiscriminate hospitality by which so many of the idle and dissolute are enabled to obtain a maintenance, and control in some degree an incipient vagrancy. This is an evil which has a more extensive existence than is generally supposed.

5. It will operate as a partial and gradual introduction of a system which is likely to prevail after 1840, and in some degree prepare the labourers for the important change which the termination of the apprenticeship must necessarily produce. It will inculcate the useful lesson, that on their own industry and frugality their maintenance must chiefly depend.

These are a few of the advantages which appear to me likely to result from the substitution of a money-payment (at the option of the labourer) in lieu of any article of farinaceous food, except plantains. The money-payment, however, ought not to exceed the average price of the articles for which it is substituted; and I think six bits would be considered as an ample remuneration for the week's allowance. But this and other details are matters more proper for his Excellency's determination.

I have, &c.

To the Hon. H. E. F. Young,
Government Secretary.

(signed) *J. O. Lockhart Mure, s. J. P.*

Enclosure 12, in No. 127.

Encl. 12, in No. 127.

Sir,

District I., 1 January 1838.

IN reply to your letter of the 23d ult., I beg to report to you, for his Excellency's information, that those estates under my charge which are provided by allowances (there are three which have grounds allotted) are generally supplied with plantains (either by growth or purchase), and it is only occasionally, when they fail, that rice or corn-meal is given.

I should conclude the quantity issued of the latter articles (10 pints) is sufficient, on the grounds that I have never received a complaint of its not being so.

I have, &c.

To the Hon. H. E. F. Young,
Government Secretary.

(signed) *G. Rose, s. J. P.*

Enclosure 13, in No. 127.

Encl. 13, in No. 127.

Sir,

District K., Berbice, 2 January 1838.

IN reply to the confidential circular of 23d December last, I have the honour to state, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that there are only three estates in this district on which rice or corn-meal are regularly issued weekly to the labourers in lieu of plantains.

On one estate (Providence), some short time ago, there was a little difference as to the quantity given, viz. 10 pints each as a full allowance. I put the question to several of the labourers as to how much each of them could consume during the week; their reply was, 15 pints of rice, or 18 of corn-flour, as the latter provision often got sour when exposed to the air, the consequence of which was, they required a larger quantity, having sometimes to throw it away or feed the poultry upon it; whereas the former kept good for a considerable time, but that it was impossible for them to subsist entirely upon farinaceous food.

I beg respectfully to say that I am of opinion 16 pints of rice, or 18 of corn-flour, is sufficient for the nourishment of an able-bodied man during the week, and equal to 70 lbs. of plantains.

I have, &c.

The Hon. the Government Secretary.

(signed) *Walter Howard Ware, s. J. P.*

Enclosure 14, in No. 127.

Encl. 14, in No. 127.

Sir,

Office of Special Justice of Peace, District L.,
Berbice, 9 January 1838.

I HAD the honour to receive your communication of the 23d December on the 2d instant, and in obedience to his Excellency's commands, enclose a list of estates in my district, from which

which you will perceive that, with the exception of plantations Herstelling, Welgeleegen and Nieuwe Vigilantie (where occasionally rice is served), all the other estates issue plantains.

In further reply to where his Excellency desires my opinion as to an equivalent in rice or corn-meal for 70 lbs. of plantains for the nourishment of an able-bodied labourer during the period of a week: that if the plantain-stalks and upper tufts of the bunches and the skins are deducted from the whole, there will remain from 50 to 55 lbs. of good plantains; this, however, is as much as is required for a labourer of the above description. An equivalent for these 70 lbs. in rice (as it is a light food) I would calculate at 18 pints, and that of corn-meal (it being a more substantial food) at 15 pints; this, in my opinion, would be found superabundant.

I remain, &c.

H. E. F. Young, Esq.
Government Secretary, British Guiana.

(signed) A. Van Ryck de Groot, s. j. p.

BRITISH GUIANA.

— No. 128.—

(No. 318.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to the Officer administering the Government.

Sir,

Downing-street, 27 April 1838.

No. 128.

I HAVE received the despatch dated the 17th of January last, and numbered 8, in which the late Governor of British Guiana reported to me the result of his inquiries as to the sufficiency of the supply of farinaceous food which, under the proclamation of Sir Benjamin D'Urban, is substituted in that colony for the plantains which the same proclamation requires to be delivered to the apprenticed labourers. Having brought this subject under the consideration of The Queen, Her Majesty, with the advice of Her Privy Council, has been pleased to make an order, which I herewith transmit, for determining what shall hereafter be the amount of such substituted allowances. You will immediately promulgate this order, and direct the special justices to cause it to be carried into execution in their respective districts.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

Enclosure in No. 128.

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 25th day of April 1838.

Present,

The QUEEN's most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS by the law now in force in the colony of British Guiana, the employer of every apprenticed labourer within the said colony is bound to supply for his or her weekly maintenance 70 lbs. of plantains, or, in lieu of such plantains, certain quantities of corn-meal or rice:

Encl. in No. 128.

And whereas by an Act passed in the present Session of Parliament, intituled, "An Act to amend the Act for the Abolition of Slavery in the British Colonies," reciting, amongst other things, that in such of the colonies as are subject to the legislative authority of Her Majesty in Council, certain laws were in force at or immediately before the time when the Act for the Abolition of Slavery passed in the Session of Parliament, holden in the third and fourth years of the reign of his late Majesty King William the Fourth, came into operation, determining the amount of food and other allowances to be supplied to the persons then held in slavery in the said colonies; and further reciting, that doubts had arisen whether, consistently with the provisions of the said Act for the Abolition of Slavery, it is competent to Her Majesty in Council to increase the said allowance, it is, amongst other things, enacted, "that it is and shall be competent to Her Majesty in Council, by any order or orders in council for that purpose to be made from time to time, to increase the amount of the said allowances, as to Her Majesty in Council shall seem meet; any thing in the said recited Act to the contrary notwithstanding:"

Now, therefore, in pursuance of the said Act of Parliament of the first year of Her Majesty's reign, and in exercise of the powers thereby declared to be vested in Her Majesty as aforesaid, Her Majesty, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, doth order, and it is hereby ordered, that, in the colony of British Guiana, every employer of any apprenticed labourer who shall not supply to such labourer the full weekly allowance of 70 lbs. of plantains, shall be and is hereby required to substitute for the same, at the discretion of such employer, either corn-meal or rice, in the proportions following, that is to say, in respect of every 10 lbs., or other less amount, of plantains, by which the weekly supply of that article to any apprenticed labourer shall fall short of the said prescribed amount of 70 lbs., the employer shall be bound to supply to each labourer either three pints of corn-meal or two pints of rice; and it is further ordered, that the plantains, corn-meal or rice so to be supplied

BRITISH GUIANA. as aforesaid shall at all times be of good average merchantable quality, and that the pints to be used for the purposes aforesaid shall be the imperial standard measure as by law established; and it is further ordered, that the Governor or officer administering the government of the said colony shall be and he is hereby authorized, by a proclamation to be by him for that purpose issued, to determine the weight of one pint of corn-meal and the weight of one pint of rice, of such quality as aforesaid, such weight having been first ascertained by exact experiments to be made by such Governor or officer as aforesaid, or in his presence; and it is further ordered, that it shall be lawful for any such apprenticed labourer, or for any special justice within the said colony on his or her behalf, at any time to require that such corn-meal or rice as aforesaid be measured by weight and not by quantity, such measurement being made according to the proportion between the weight and quantity thereof so to be ascertained and established as aforesaid; and it is further ordered, that if any question shall in any case arise as to the quality of any such plantains, corn-meal or rice as aforesaid, delivered or tendered to any such apprenticed labourer, or as to the measurement thereof, either by weight or by quantity, every such question shall be adjudged and determined by some special justice having jurisdiction within the district within which such questions shall so arise, and the decision of such special justice upon any such question shall be final and conclusive, and without appeal:

And it is further ordered, that all penalties which, under the law now in force within the said colony, may be imposed on any person refusing or neglecting to supply to any apprenticed labourer therein the provisions to which, by such law, such apprenticed labourer is now entitled, shall be applicable to the case of any employer refusing or neglecting to supply the provisions in this present order mentioned, and shall be in force against such employer in such and the same manner as is now provided and directed by law within the colony aforesaid:

And it is further ordered, that, in respect of such existing penalties for the purpose and within the meaning of this present order, any person entitled to the services of any apprenticed labourer, or any person who is attorney, manager, agent, or otherwise may be in the lawful superintendence of any such apprenticed labourer, shall be taken to be the employer of such labourer:

And the Right honourable Lord Glenelg, one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, is to give the necessary directions herein accordingly.

(signed) *Wm. L. Bathurst.*

CLASSIFICATION.

— No. 129. —

(No. 390.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 24 October 1837.

No. 129.

*Vide Papers relative to the Abolition of Slavery, 1836, Part 3 (2), page 99.**Ditto, page 104.*

IN the despatch of the 13th November 1835, No. 250, which I had the honour to address to your Lordship, I took the liberty of drawing your Lordship's attention to various instances of erroneous registrations of apprenticed labourers; and I explained, that if an opportunity was not afforded of amending the classification, many apprenticed labourers, whose services, if they had been correctly registered, would expire on the 1st August 1838, will be liable to be kept as prædial labourers until the 1st August 1840. Your Lordship did me the honour, in your despatch of the 22d January 1836, No. 251, to reply to my observations, and to state that, in point of law, it must first be ascertained whether the Act of Parliament does really require that mistakes of this kind should always be remediable, and that you would propose this inquiry to the law officers of the Crown. As I have not again heard from your Lordship upon this subject, and as, if a local ordinance is to be framed, granting (as I have proposed) a summary jurisdiction to the judges of the supreme court, in all cases of alleged erroneous classification, to correct the registrar's lists, it is desirable that such ordinance should not be delayed beyond the ensuing spring session of the court of policy, I take the liberty, with every respect, of again submitting the subject for your Lordship's consideration and decision.

In your Lordship's despatch which I have already had the honour to quote, your Lordship states, as a practical difficulty, that if an apprentice, erroneously classed as a prædial, has, under that mistake, only been called upon to perform 45 hours of labour per week, instead of rendering an indefinite amount of service as a non-prædial, there will be a difficulty in adjusting the mutual rights and obligations of the employer and of the apprentice upon the discovery and correction of the error. With reference to this observation of your Lordship, I beg leave most respectfully to observe, that it was the employer to whom the law delegated the duty of making out the classification returns; and that the employer, and not the labourer, swore to their having been made out agreeable to certain data which the law enjoined him to attend to. To keep the non-prædial labourer longer in a state of obligatory servitude than he would otherwise be liable to be detained, on account of an error on the part of his employer in placing him in a wrong column in his return, whether such error may have been accidental or intentional, I humbly conceive would not be justified by the Act of Parliament. I shall await your Lordship's instructions and the opinions of the law officers of the Crown with some anxiety.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth.*

— No. 130. —

(No. 392.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 26 October 1837.

No. 130.

WITH reference to the remarks I had the honour to lay before your Lordship in my despatch of the 24th instant, No. 390, upon the subject of the erroneous registration of some of the apprenticed labourers in this colony, I take the liberty of observing, that although the employer may state that, in registering a non-prædial labourer in the class of prædial, he has lost the nine hours of labour per week which the non-prædial is obliged to devote to the service of his master more than is required from the prædial for the space of four years, yet the whole loss amounts only to 1,872 hours of labour; whereas the two years of prædial labour,

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labour, at the rate of 45 hours per week, to obtain which he has given up the 1,872 hours of non-prædial labour, amount to 2,340 hours of labour, leaving a balance of 468 hours of labour in favour of the erroneous registration.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth.*

—No. 131.—

(No. 290.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart.

No. 131.

Sir,

Downing-street, 29 January 1838.

I HAVE received your despatches, Nos. 390 and 392, dated the 24th and 26th of October, on the subject of the erroneous registration of some of the apprenticed labourers in Guiana, as prædial or non-prædial.

Since the receipt of your first despatch on this subject, information of similar errors has reached me from several other colonies; and a careful examination has consequently been made of the provisions of the several laws respecting classification, in order to ascertain whether any new enactment was required for the assertion of the undoubted right of the apprentice to be placed in that class to which he really belongs.

The result is, that these laws appear to be all more or less ambiguous on the question of the right of the apprentices, after a limited period, to claim a revision of the lists. I think, however, for the reasons which you have assigned, that this doubt ought to be decided in favour of the apprentices. In accordance with a suggestion to this effect from the Governor of Mauritius, I accordingly submitted to The Queen in Council the draft of an order for declaring the law on this subject in Mauritius; and Her Majesty in Council was accordingly pleased, on the 18th of November 1837, to make an order for this purpose. I enclose a copy of it for your information.

Order in Council,
18 Nov. 1837.

It is, of course, competent to The Queen in Council to make a similar order for the removal of all doubts on this subject in British Guiana; but Her Majesty would be reluctant, needlessly, to resort to the exercise of that authority. When the original enactments in aid of the Slavery Abolition Act were framed for British Guiana, the court of policy requested, and was permitted, to originate that part of the law. It appears to have been thought that this course of proceeding was the best calculated to place the local legislature and the emancipated slaves in friendly relations with each other; and as you have now suggested that the proposed amendment of the law should be made in the ensuing spring session of the court of policy, The Queen has been pleased to command me to instruct you to recommend to that court the adoption of a declaratory ordinance, corresponding in substance with the order in council of the 18th November last.

In the event of the adoption of such an ordinance as I have mentioned, you will, of course, instruct the special magistrates in their several districts to give to the apprenticed labourers, collectively and individually, the most distinct intimation of the real nature of the law, and to afford to every person who may have been erroneously classed all necessary advice and assistance in bringing forward his claim for the correction of the mistake. You will also consider whether it may not be expedient to assign to some one of the special magistracy the duty of exercising a general superintendence over all proceedings of this nature, and of bringing all applications for the correction of the lists under the notice of the judges. It is, however, happily unnecessary for me to enter with any minuteness upon details of this nature, as I am well aware that your own zeal for the welfare of this class of the colonial society, directed by the most extensive and accurate information, will guide you to the best and most effectual method of accomplishing the object in view.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg.*

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Enclosure in No. 131.

BRITISH GUIANA.

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 18th November 1837.

Present,

The QUEEN's most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS by the third chapter of an order made by his late Majesty in Council, entitled, "An Order of the King in Council for giving effect in the Colony of Mauritius to the statute third and fourth Will. IV. c. 73, for the Abolition of Slavery throughout the British dominions, at the Court at St. James's, the 17th day of September 1834," certain rules and proceedings are prescribed for dividing the apprenticed labourers into the respective classes of "prædial," "prædial unattached" and "non-prædial," and for correcting and recording such classification in the slave registry of the colony: And whereas it is enacted by the twelfth article of the same chapter, that "during the continuance of the apprenticeship the slave registry, so corrected as aforesaid, shall be deposited amongst the records of the superior court of the colony, and when any question shall arise respecting the class to which any apprenticed labourer belongs, such corrected registry, or a certified copy thereof, shall be taken as conclusive evidence of the fact:"

Encl. in No. 131.

But whereas there is reason to believe that apprentices properly "non-prædial," have been, in some instances, erroneously registered as "prædials," and it is just that any such apprentice so erroneously registered should have the benefit of the shorter duration of apprenticeship, and it is necessary, for this purpose, that provision should be made for the correction of such erroneous classification, in all cases in which the fact can be clearly established, any thing contained in the article above cited notwithstanding:

It is therefore hereby ordered by Her Majesty, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, that whenever there shall appear to a special justice good grounds for believing that an apprentice has been erroneously classed, it shall be competent to such special justice to submit every such case to the chief or to any other judge of the superior court at Mauritius, together with such proofs as may be deemed necessary; and it shall be lawful for the judge to whom the case is submitted to proceed to hear and decide the same in a summary way, and to order such correction to be made in the classification of the registry as, on good and satisfactory evidence, he may judge to be right and just; and such order shall have the same effect as if such apprentice had been originally classed under the amended denomination.

(signed) Wm. L. Bathurst.

— No. 132. —

(No. 32.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir J. C. Smyth, Bart., to Lord Glenelg.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 14 February 1838.

No. 132.

WITH reference to your Lordship's circular of the 28th December 1837, upon the subject of commissioners being about to be appointed for this colony for the purpose of amending such errors as may have taken place in the classification returns of the prædial and non-prædial labourers, I beg to lay before your Lordship a proclamation which I have felt it my duty to issue, and which, I trust, will have the effect of doing away any excitement, and of explaining away any misapprehension which the arrival of these gentlemen might perhaps otherwise possibly occasion. The labourers have perfect confidence in the government, and will, I have no doubt, continue to perform the duties allotted to them, according to the classes into which they may ultimately be divided, with diligence, and to the satisfaction of their employers.

Upon the receipt of your Lordship's despatch in question, I lost no time in laying it before the court of policy; and I, at the same time, introduced a Bill, extending to the judges of the supreme court that power of summary adjudication and of amending the classification returns in all cases of complaint, which they formerly possessed under ordinance 42, but which power ceased upon the 1st August 1834.

I had the honour, in the despatch of the 13th November 1835, No. 250, addressed by me to your Lordship, respectfully to suggest that this mode should be adopted, and that an order in council should be issued to that effect. It always appeared to me, not only that the judges were the most eligible and competent persons to whom such an authority could be intrusted, but that the arming them anew with a power which they once were in possession of, would cause less excitement, and be less liable to misapprehension, than any other course which could be adopted. It would have been a matter of the highest gratification to me, and I was in hopes that it would have been seen and felt by the non-official members of the court of policy in the same point of view, that the commissioners should not have found, upon their arrival in this colony, a single case to redress. These gentlemen of the court of policy were, however,

Vide Papers relative to the Abolition of Slavery, 1836, Part 3 (2), page 99.

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so averse to my Bill that I withdrew it; and they subsequently threw out a Bill, to the same effect, which the Attorney-general had introduced. The lists will consequently be laid before the commissioners without any amendment or correction; and, if I have been rightly informed, some exposures of erroneous classifications must, in consequence, take place, highly discreditable to the parties concerned. The errors in the returns will, moreover, I am led to apprehend, be found, upon investigation, to be infinitely more numerous than I anticipated. I sincerely lament all these circumstances. That confidence between the employer and the labourer which I have been so anxious to encourage would have been materially strengthened, had the unofficial members of the court of policy readily co-operated with me in placing every labourer in his proper class. I respectfully submit to your Lordship that they have acted most unwisely in not cheerfully acquiescing in the enactments of the Bill, calculated as it was to correct those errors which it is our bounden duty to cause to be corrected, but without more publicity and excitement than was unavoidable.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth.*

Enclosure in No. 132.

PROCLAMATION addressed to the Apprenticed Labourers of *British Guiana*.

J. C. SMYTH, British Guiana.

(L. S.)

Encl. in No. 132.

By his Excellency Major-general Sir *James Carmichael Smyth*, Baronet, Companion of the most honourable the Military Order of the Bath, Knight Commander of the Royal Order of Hanover, Knight of the Austrian Imperial Order of Maria Theresa, Knight of the Russian Imperial Order of St. Wladimir, Governor and Commander-in-chief in and over the Colony of British Guiana, Vice-Admiral and Ordinary of the same, &c. &c. &c.

My good Friends,

You have conducted yourselves, ever since the abolition of slavery, in a way to entitle you to the highest praise. You have paid implicit obedience to the laws. The laws know no distinction of persons; and whoever behaves himself as a loyal and peaceable subject is sure of protection both in his person and in his property. I feel confident that you are convinced of these truths; and that you will continue in your present quiet and industrious habits, the advantages of which you experience more and more every day.

II.

It has been stated to me that some of you feel dissatisfied at the class in which you have been registered, and conceive that you have been unfairly placed in the prædial instead of the non-prædial lists. Now, although the Lord of lords and King of kings has been pleased, since last I addressed you, to remove from this transitory world our good King William, who abolished slavery, yet the same Almighty Disposer of events has placed the crown on the head, and the sceptre in the hands, of a most gracious and beloved young Queen, who feels equally interested in the happiness and prosperity of all her subjects, without distinction of colour, and without reference to the distance of the colony in which they may reside. Her Majesty has already ordered and directed that gentlemen are to be sent out to this colony as commissioners, for the express purpose of satisfying themselves and reporting to her that each and every one of you is placed in that class which, by the wisdom of the Imperial Parliament, has been allotted to you. You need not, consequently, suffer any uneasiness or unhappiness as far as regards the class in which you have been placed. Such of you as, by the law for the abolition of slavery, are entitled to be made free upon the 1st August next, are sure to receive your complete emancipation. Such of you as, by the same law, are bound to continue upon the estates at plantation work, at the rate of seven and a half hours per day, will persevere steadily in the discharge of your duty until the 1st August 1840, when you will receive your full and perfect freedom.

III.

You may place perfect reliance upon what I state to you. I expect that each and every one of you will remain quietly and happily at your present occupations. Be not uneasy with respect to the class in which you have been registered. If you have been wrongfully classed, the error will be corrected by the commissioners. Turn a deaf ear to all foolish and idle reports. Lay not yourselves open to be accused of idleness or negligence, or of tumultuously assembling. Your interests are watched over; and your happiness is anxiously desired by our Queen.

Given under my hand and seal of office, at the Guiana Public Buildings, George Town, Demerara, this 14th day of February 1838, and in the first year of Her Majesty's reign.

God save The QUEEN.

By his Excellency's command,

(signed) *H. E. F. Young*, Government Secretary.

(No. 326.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to the Officer administering the Government of British Guiana.

My Lord,

Downing-street, 1 May 1838.

No. 133.

I HAVE received the despatch of the late Governor of British Guiana, dated the 14th February, No. 32, reporting the refusal of the court of policy to enact an ordinance to provide for the amendment of the classification returns in that colony. Within two days after my receipt of that communication, the royal assent was given to the Statute 1 Vict. cap. 19, amending the Act for the Abolition of Slavery in the British West India Colonies. The 19th section of that statute authorizes the Governor of each colony, if he shall think fit, by proclamation, with the advice of the council, or, in the case of British Guiana, with the advice of the court of policy, to make regulations for this purpose. But as there now appears no reason to hope that the court of policy will concur in making any such regulations, Her Majesty has been advised, in the exercise of her legislative authority over British Guiana, to assume the discharge of this duty, and I have accordingly the honour to transmit to you an order, made by Her Majesty in Council on the 25th ultimo, by which provision is made for this purpose. You will perceive that the order follows as closely as possible the terms of the Act of Parliament. The selection of the revisers is committed by Her Majesty to you, subject only to the condition that they shall be persons who have no interest in any classification to be made of apprenticed labourers in the colony. You will make those appointments with the least possible delay, and you will instruct the special justices to institute in their respective districts all necessary inquiries for ascertaining in what cases any real or apparent error has occurred in preparing the existing lists. For that purpose they will enter into personal communication with the apprenticed labourers, and will afford them every possible assistance in bringing their claims under the notice of the revisers.

Order in Council,
25 April 1838.

Under the 4th clause of the original Slavery Abolition Act, a question of great importance has been much agitated. The variation between the language of the preamble and enactment of the clause on the one side, and that of the following proviso with which the clause concludes on the other side, had given rise to an opinion that an apprenticed labourer who, during the continuance of slavery, had been employed upon a plantation not in agriculture or in the manufacture of colonial produce, but in work of a different description, ought to be placed in the prædial class. Thus the whole body of persons usually designated as plantation tradesmen were regarded by some as being in this predicament, while others maintained that the real design of Parliament was to place such persons in the non-prædial class. You are aware, from my circular of the 30th of last March, that the law officers of the Crown adopted the latter opinion, and reported that no apprenticed labourer who, in his state of slavery, had been ordinarily employed for 12 calendar months at the least next before the passing of the Abolition Act upon a plantation, whether belonging to his owner or to any other party, in the trade of a cooper, or carpenter, or mason, or otherwise as a mechanic, although it were in works undertaken exclusively with a view to the benefit of the plantation or of the produce raised upon it, should be considered as belonging to the prædial class.

In conformity with this opinion, the 19th section of the Statute 1 Vict. cap. 19, has been framed in such terms as to place beyond doubt that the only test by which the two classes are to be discriminated from each other is to be derived from the fact, whether the individual respecting whom the inquiry is made was or was not for 12 months at least next before the 28th of August 1833 habitually employed in agriculture or in the manufacture of colonial produce. In the case of a man whose habitual employment during that period was that of a cooper, a mason, a carpenter, or an artisan of any other description, it is plain that this criterion requires him to be classed amongst the non-prædials. You will communicate this explanation of the statute to the special justices for their guidance.

Sir J. C. Smyth's proclamation of the 14th of February last I entirely approve. The intention to which it refers, of appointing commissioners for the purpose of revising the classification lists, had been entertained by Her Majesty's Government at a time when no adequate information had reached us of the extent to

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which errors in the classification lists prevailed throughout all the colonies. The intelligence which I subsequently received from the Governors of Jamaica and of the Windward and Leeward Islands indicated the necessity of resorting to Parliament for a remedy more general and effectual than any which could be supplied by the exercise of the prerogatives of the Crown. It was for this reason that the plan of proceeding by a Royal Commission was abandoned in favour of that which has now received the sanction of the Legislature.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Glenelg.*

Enclosure in No. 133.

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 25th day of April 1838,

Present,

The QUEEN'S most Excellent Majesty in Council.

Encl. in No. 133.

WHEREAS by the law in force in British Guiana no adequate provision hath been made for revising the classification of the apprenticed labourers attached to the soil, and of prædial apprenticed labourers not attached to the soil, and it is necessary that regulations be made for the effectual revision of the classification aforesaid:

It is therefore ordered, by The Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, that the Governor or officer administering the government of the said colony shall, by commissions to be by him for that purpose issued, under the public seal thereof, nominate and appoint a sufficient number of persons, having no interest in any such classification, to make such revision; and that the persons so appointed shall have full power to correct all such errors as shall be proved to them to exist in the said classification, and that their decision in each case shall be final, except in the case of appeal, as hereinafter provided:

And it is further ordered, that either of the parties to the said classification who shall be dissatisfied with the decision of the said revisers, or any of them, or any other person on his or her behalf, may, within one calendar month after such decision shall have been made, appeal against such decision, by petition to the Governor or the officer administering the Government of the said colony; and such Governor or officer shall, with the advice of the court of policy of the said colony, proceed in a summary way to hear and decide the matter of the petition, and his decision shall be final, subject only to an appeal to Her Majesty in Council:

And the Right honourable Lord Glenelg, one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, is to give the necessary directions herein accordingly.

(signed) *Wm. L. Bathurst.*

VALUATION.

—No. 134.—

(No. 357.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 134.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 26 July 1837.

No. 1. Quarterly Returns.

I BEG to lay before your Lordship the returns for the last quarter of the present year, that is to say, for the quarter ending on the 30th June last. Your Lordship will observe with pleasure that we continue in this rising colony to flourish, in every respect equal to our most sanguine expectations.

No. 2. Valuations.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth.*

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Enclosure 1, in No. 134.

BRITISH GUIANA.
Encl. 1, in No. 134.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

THE following QUARTERLY RETURNS are published for general information.

Guiana Public Buildings, 19 July 1837.

By Order of his Excellency the Governor,

H. E. F. Young, Government Secretary.

(A.)—RETURN of MARRIAGES in *British Guiana* during the June Quarter 1837.

1. Marriages by Special License	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
2. Ditto by Publication of Banns	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	308
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	332

(B.)—RETURN of COMMUNICANTS at the Holy Sacrament in *British Guiana* during the June Quarter.

1. Church of England	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,401
2. Church of Scotland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	159
3. Reformed Church of Holland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4. Lutheran Church	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Roman Catholic Church	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. Church Missionary Society	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7. Wesleyan Missionaries	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	914
8. London Missionary Society	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	135
9. Moravian Missionaries	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,609

(C.)—RETURN of PERSONS receiving Instruction in Schools in *British Guiana* during the June Quarter.

	Average Number of Adults.	Average Number of Children.	TOTAL.
Sunday Schools	1,846	3,130	4,976
Day Schools	69	2,308	2,377
Evening Schools	1,458	580	2,038
TOTAL	3,373	6,018	9,391

N. B.—No Returns have been received this quarter from the Reverend the Rector of the parish of Trinity; the Ministers of St. Andrew, Church of Holland, Lutheran, Roman Catholic Church and Church Missionary Society; and but three Returns each from the Ministers of the Wesleyan and London Missionary Societies. Moravian Missionary absent from the colony.

(D.)—RETURN of CONVICTIONS before the Supreme Criminal Courts in *British Guiana* during the June Quarter.

	Males.	Females.
1. In the District of Demerara and Essequibo	3	-
2. In the District of Berbice	-	-
TOTAL	3	-

(E.)—RETURN of CONVICTIONS before the Inferior Criminal Courts in *British Guiana* during the June Quarter.

	Males.	Females.
1. Demerara	97	9
2. Essequibo	31	2
3. Berbice	21	3
TOTAL	149	14

(F.)—RETURN of SHIPPING, TONNAGE and SEAMEN entered the Ports of *British Guiana* during the June Quarter.

	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Seamen.
1. Demerara and Essequibo	122	18,932	1,138
2. Berbice	23	3,386	208
TOTAL	145	22,318	1,346

(G.)—RETURN of LABOURERS and ARTIFICERS imported into *British Guiana* during the June Quarter.

	Males.	Females.
1. Demerara	166	68
2. Berbice	70	44
TOTAL	236	112

(H.)—RETURN of COLONIAL PRODUCE shipped from the Ports of *British Guiana* during the June Quarter.

	Sugar.			Rum.			Molasses.			Coffee.	Cotton.
	Hhds.	Trcs.	Bs.	Puns.	Hhds.	Brls.	Hhds.	Trcs.	Brls.	Lbs.	Bals.
1. DEMERARA	10,708	454	511	2,453	782	284	4,393	192	18	774,750	389
2. BERBICE	1,889	164	112	623	50	4	582	-	-	275,400	315
TOTAL	12,597	618	623	3,076	832	288	4,975	192	18	1,050,150	704

(I.)—RETURN of the VALUE of Goons imported into *British Guiana* during the June Quarter.

	£.	s.	d.
1. Into the Port of Demerara	-	-	-
2. " Berbice	-	-	-
TOTAL Sterling	£. 241,740	9	11

(K.)—RETURN of BALANCE in the COLONIAL CHESTS on the 30th June 1837.

	£.	s.	d.
1. In the Chest at Georgetown	-	-	-
2. " New Amsterdam	-	-	-
TOTAL Sterling	£. 45,450	15	10½

Compiled from the Official Returns.

H. E. F. Young, Government Secretary.

Enclosure 2, in No. 134.

RETURN of APPRAISEMENTS for *Demerara* and *Essequibo*.

Name of Apprenticed Labourer appraised.	Age.	Sex.	Registered Employment.	Amount of Appraisement in Guilders, D. C.	Name of the Employer or Plantation.	Names of Appraisers: 1. Appraiser appointed by Sp. J. 2. Ditto, by Employer. 3. Umpire, by Judge Gloster.	Valuation given in by each Appraiser.	Name of the approving Judge.
April 1837:	Yrs.			ƒ.			ƒ.	
Venus - -	23	Female	P. A. field -	880	Pl. Helena - -	1. William M'Callum - - 2. Hon. Peter Rose - - 3. A. M'Queen - -	660 1,000 880	Chief Justice Bent.
Agnes - -	12	Female	P. A. - -	500	Pl. Good Hope - -	1. Capt. Southey - - 2. James Stuart - - 3. J. J. Knight - -	220 600 500	
Present - -	55	Female	P. A. midwife	550	Pl. Belmont - -	1. Capt. Southey - - 2. James Stuart - - 3. Dr. Rankin - -	550 550 —	
John, jun. -	10	Male -	P. A. jobbing	330	- ditto - -	1. Capt. Southey - - 2. James Stuart - - 3. Dr. Rankin - -	330 330 —	
Francina - -	1	Female	P. U. field -	330	Elizabeth Yongius -	1. R. Burnthorn - - 2. R. Jordan - - 3. W. Burnett - -	330 330 —	
Catherine -	27	Female	P. A. field -	900	Pl. Met en Meer Zorg	1. Capt. Southey - - 2. Hon. P. Rose - - 3. W. E. Pierce - -	594 1,000 900	
Betsy - -	20	Female	P. A. field -	1,000	Pl. Sophia - -	1. Capt. Southey - - 2. Hon. P. Rose - - 3. Hugh Rogers - -	900 1,300 1,000	
Maria - -	27	Female	P. A. field -	700	Pl. La Jalousie - -	1. Thomas Ross - - 2. T. Glendinning - - 3. Archibald M'Queen -	500 880 700	
Mattybella -	22	Female	P. A. field -	1,200	Pl. Uniform - -	1. Capt. Southey - - 2. E. L. Christiani - - 3. Geo. Cauly - -	900 1,250 1,200	
Christina -	30	Female	P. U. field -	900	Mary Grinion - -	1. Capt. Southey - - 2. E. L. Christiani - - 3. John Beete - -	900 900 —	
Lucretia - -	49	Female	N. P. domestic	400	John Coates - -	1. Capt. Southey - - 2. James Stuart - - 3. David Rose - -	330 660 400	
Mary - -	27	Female	P. A. field -	1,100	Pl. Elizabeth Anne -	1. Capt. Southey - - 2. Hon. P. Rose - - 3. Dr. Rankin - -	800 1,100 1,100	
Augustine -	40	Female	P. A. field -	900	Pl. Cullen - -	1. J. F. Padmore - - 2. James Stuart - - 3. C. Playter - -	900 900 —	
Rosaline - -	34	Female	P. U. field -	990	Est. of Joseph Cook, deceased - -	1. Capt. Southey - - 2. James Stuart - - 3. E. L. Christiani - -	600 990 990	Not admitted by C. J.
Frank - -	34	Male -	N. P. cooper -	235	M. Mackay - -	1. Wm. M'Callum - - 2. T. Glendinning - - 3. G. Cauly - -	220 250 235	
Catheda - -	44	Female	P. A. field -	220	Pl. Providence - -	1. Richard Haynes - - 2. J. J. Knight - - 3. W. E. Peirce - -	220 220 —	
Geo. Charles -	22	Male -	P. A. field -	1,100	- ditto - -	1. Richard Haynes - - 2. J. J. Knight - - 3. Hugh Rogers - -	1,100 1,600 1,100	
Anthony Sampson alias Toney Osborn.	27	Male -	P. A. field -	1,000	- ditto - -	1. Richard Haynes - - 2. J. J. Knight - - 3. Hugh Rogers - -	1,100 1,600 1,000	
Phillida - -	32	Female	P. A. field -	1,200	Pl. Henrietta - -	1. J. F. Padmore - - 2. W. E. Pierce - - 3. Alem Shaw - -	1,200 1,200 —	
Catherine Taylor	28 ½	Female	P. A. domestic	660	Pl. Anna Regina -	1. J. F. Padmore - - 2. W. Burnett - - 3. J. J. L. Moliere - -	660 660 —	
Phillis - -	34	Female	N. P. field -	330	Sarah Morgan - -	1. J. F. Padmore - - 2. J. J. Knight - - 3. E. L. Christiani - -	300 440 330	
Susan - -	15	Female	N. P. working out.	250	- ditto - -	1. J. F. Padmore - - 2. J. J. Knight - - 3. E. L. Christiani - -	220 330 250	

SLAVERY IN THE BRITISH COLONIES.

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RETURN of APPRAISEMENTS for *Demerara and Essequibo*—continued.

Name of Apprenticed Labourer appraised.	Age.	Sex.	Registered Employment.	Amount of Appraisement in Guilders, D. C.	Name of the Employer or Plantation.	Names of Appraisers : 1. Appraiser appointed by Sp. J. 2. Ditto, by Employer. 3. Umpire, by Judge Gloster.	Valuation given in by each Appraiser.	Name of the approving Judge.
May 1837 : Lydia - -	<i>Yrs.</i> 19	Female	P. A. field -	<i>f.</i> 1,300	Plantation Brothers -	1. Richard Hancock - - 2. Hon. P. Rose - - 3. L. Boode - -	<i>f.</i> 1,000 1,300 1,300	} Not admitted by C. J.
Frances - -	57½	Female	N. P. domestic	308	Rachael Batty - -	1. Captain Southey - - 2. J. F. Adcock - - 3. E. L. Christiani - -	- 308 388	
Hendrick - -	31	Male -	P. A. carpenter	1,600	Pl. De Kinderen, in St. Luke's parish -	1. Captain Southey - - 2. P. M. Watson - - 3. John Jackson - -	- 1,900 1,600	
Sukey - -	32	Female	N. P. field -	400	Alex. Shaw - -	1. Richard Hancock - - 2. Dr. Rankin - - 3. E. C. Whitlock - -	400 400 -	
Sankey - -	24	Female	N. P. jobber -	400	Est. of W. Urquhart, deceased - -	1. Captain Southey - - 2. E. C. Whitlock - - 3. L. Boode - -	242 440 400	} Chief Justice Bent
Pomelia - -	44	Female	P. U. washer -	700	A. Edmondstone & Co.	1. P. Horan - - 2. Dr. Rankin - - 3. John Lane - -	700 700 -	
Lewy - -	25	Male -	P. A. domestic	1,200	Pl. Arthurville -	1. Captain Southey - - 2. T. Bowerbank - - 3. R. Morrison - -	836 1,300 1,200	
Alick - -	34	Male -	P. U. field -	2,200	William M'Keand -	1. Captain Southey - - 2. E. L. Christiani - - 3. Charles Palmer - -	1,000 2,200 2,200	
Friday - -	36	Male -	P. A. domestic	1,450	Capt. Warren, or Pl. Taymouth Manor, in St. Mary's parish -	1. Captain Southey - - 2. Hon. P. Rose - - 3. E. C. Whitlock - -	308 1,600 1,450	} Chief Justice Bent
Louisa - -	3	Female	P. U. field -	1,000	Mrs. Ruperti - -	1. Captain Southey - - 2. Richard Hancock - - 3. William Roberts - -	308 1,100 1,000	
Esther - -	32	Female	P. A. field -	1,050	Pl. Enterprise - -	1. Captain Southey - - 2. Hon. P. Rose - - 3. Alex. Shaw - -	800 1,300 1,050	
Ellen - -	24	Female	P. A. washer and field.	600	Pl. Belfield, in Leguan	1. Captain Southey - - 2. J. Bowerbank - - 3. E. L. Christiani - -	308 600 600	
Amelia - -	48	Female	P. A. washer -	716	Pl. New Bendorff, in Wakenaam - -	1. Captain Southey - - 2. James Matthews - - 3. S. B. Liot Bacher - -	308 880 716	} Chief Justice Bent
Simon - -	35	Male -	P. A. carpenter	1,000	Pl. Paradise - -	1. Richard Hancock - - 2. W. Roberts - - 3. J. Bowerbank - -	1,000 1,000 -	
Polly - -	30	Female	P. A. field -	880	- ditto - -	1. Richard Hancock - - 2. W. Roberts - - 3. J. Bowerbank - -	880 880 -	
June 1837 : Stewart - -	20	Male -	P. A. field -	770	Pl. Strathaven - -	1. H. Kemp - - 2. E. L. Christiani - - 3. James Anglim - -	770 770 -	
Sally - -	22	Female	P. A. field -	1,100	Pl. Good Hope - -	1. G. M. Forrester - - 2. James Stuart - - 3. J. J. L. Moliere - -	1,100 1,100 -	} Chief Justice Bent
Hannah, alias Honora.	14	Female	P. A. domestic	660	Pl. Hibernia - -	1. S. G. Jacobs - - 2. E. L. Christiani - - 3. H. Kemp - -	660 660 -	
Maria - -	25	Female	P. U. field -	800	Executors of John Grant, deceased -	1. M. Jacobs - - 2. H. Kemp - - 3. Dr. M'Turk - -	800 800 -	
Gift - -	33	Male -	P. A. carpenter	1,200	Pl. Providence - -	1. Richard Haynes - - 2. James Stuart - - 3. Colin Simson - -	1,200 1,200 -	
Nanny - -	32	Female	P. A. field -	990	- ditto - -	1. Richard Haynes - - 2. James Stuart - - 3. Colin Simson - -	990 990 -	} Chief Justice Bent
Martha - -	43	Female	P. A. domestic	580	Pl. Wales - -	1. M. Jacobs - - 2. E. L. Christiani - - 3. D. Rose - -	580 580 -	
Gift - -	31	Male -	P. A. field -	1,500	Pl. Onderneeming -	1. S. G. Jacobs - - 2. E. L. Christiani - - 3. Dr. M'Turk - -	1,500 1,500 -	
Mary - -	32	Female	P. A. field -	1,000	Pl. Sarah, in Wake- naam - -	1. G. M. Forrester - - 2. E. L. Christiani - - 3. J. J. L. Moliere - -	1,000 1,000 -	
Betty - -	33	Female	N. P. domestic	330	John Thierens, of Wis- selvalgeheid - -	1. G. M. Forrester - - 2. James Stuart - - 3. Richard Hayn - -	330 330 -	

George Ross, S. J. P.

RETURN of APPRAISEMENT for *Berbice*.

June 1837 : Louisa - -	<i>Yrs.</i> 50	Female	Domestic -	<i>f.</i> 700	Wm. Nicholson, attach- ed to Pl. Enfield -	1. A. R. Hollingsworth - - 2. C. Faloon - - 3. H. J. Baird - -	- - -	} His Honor S. Firebrace.
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John M'Leod, Special Magistrate.

—No. 135.—

(No. 248.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart.

No. 135.

Sir,

Downing-street, 15 September 1837.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 25th July, No. 357, enclosing various printed quarterly returns, which exhibit in a very clear and gratifying manner the general state of the colony of British Guiana under various statistical aspects. While congratulating you on the general result of these returns, I cannot pass without notice the facts which they exhibit, respecting the valuation of the services of apprenticed labourers seeking their discharge from apprenticeship. In the list I perceive two cases of children, one named Francina, and the other Louisa, the first of whom is represented to be one year, and the second three years old. The first of these infants was valued at 330 guilders, and the second at 1,000. I take for granted that the figures of the ages are erroneously printed, since no person could be lawfully regarded as an apprenticed labourer who was not of the age of six years and upwards on the 1st of August 1834, and since it is incredible that any value whatever could be attached to the services of these children.

I have not read without surprise the valuations in question. One of the apprentices is appraised at the extraordinary sum of 2,200 guilders, another at 1,600, one at 1,500, one at 1,300, and four at 1,200; and several at other large sums. Yet the period of service had at the date of these valuations been reduced to little more than three years. One of two conclusions seems inevitable: either the Parliamentary compensation was far beyond what could reasonably have been demanded, or the remaining service has been estimated on the most extravagant principles of calculation. If it be really true that, after providing for the maintenance of a field labourer, there remains to his employer a profit of more than 730 guilders per annum as the valuation of the man named Alick seems to imply, I fear that the terms on which labourers introduced into the colony are daily apprenticed must be most unequal and injurious to them.

The variations between the appraisements made by the nominees of the special justices and by those of the employer are in many cases startling. Thus in the cases of the three apprentices named Alick, Friday and Louisa, it appears that Captain Southey's estimate was in the first 1,000 guilders, while that of his associate in the valuation was 2,200. In the second of these cases, Captain Southey returned the sum of 308 guilders, while his associate, Mr. Rose, a member of council, returned 1,600. In the third case, Captain Southey estimated the apprentice at 308 guilders, and Mr. Handcock at 1,100. There are many other cases in which similar variations occur. These differences of opinion are such as imply some difference of principle, for it is incredible that any two competent persons, reasoning on the same principles, should habitually reach conclusions so entirely repugnant to each other. I am the more inclined to adopt this conclusion, from observing that Captain Southey's estimate, as often as he is employed, is almost invariably lower, and those of Mr. Rose with almost equal certainty is higher, than that of their respective coadjutors.

It is remarkable also that, whereas in the month of April, out of 22 cases 14 were decided by the umpire, and in the month of May, 10 out of 15 were so decided; in the month of June it appears, that in every case the nominees of the special justice and of the employer agreed in their estimate without invoking the aid of an umpire at all. This is a variation which can hardly be ascribed to accident. The real cause of it would seem to merit inquiry.

Having thus drawn your attention to this subject, I am aware that it is needless to impress on you the importance of doing whatever can be done for the correction of any error or abuse which may have prevailed in giving effect to this part of the law.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

—No. 136.—

(No. 396.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 31 October 1837.

No. 136.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 15th September, No. 248, relative to the exorbitant valuations of the services of apprenticed labourers seeking their discharge from apprenticeship. Your Lordship does not do me more than justice in expressing your opinion that it is needless to impress on me the importance of doing whatever can be done for the correction of any error or abuse which may have prevailed in giving effect to this part of the law.

I beg leave most respectfully to observe to your Lordship, that so far back as on the 13th November 1835, I had the honour to report to your Lordship, that "the appraisers have hitherto valued the services of the apprenticed labourers at so high a rate as to cause serious inconvenience and discontent amongst such of the labouring class as have been able to save a little money, and effectually to deter many from purchasing their freedom who, at a more moderate price, would gladly have availed themselves of this mode of procuring immediate emancipation." I ventured, in the same despatch, to suggest that rules for the guidance of the appraisers should be established by an order in council. I entered into some details of calculation, to show that it did not appear to me that there would be any difficulty in framing a general scale to serve as a guide for the appraisers. Your Lordship, however, having, in your despatch of the 22d January 1836, No. 251, disapproved of my plan, to which there appeared to your Lordship many serious objections, I have thought no more upon the subject; but I have contented myself, as I had the honour to report to your Lordship (in my despatch of the 11th March 1836) I should do, in causing a periodical nominal return to be published of all apprenticed labourers who may have purchased their emancipation by appraisement; such return showing the names of the appraisers, the amount of the appraisement, and other particulars. The publication of such a document I intended to operate as a check upon exorbitant and unfair appraisements. In publishing these returns, I did all that the law allowed me to do—I left the conduct of the appraisers to the opinion and judgment of the public.

Vide Papers relative to the Abolition of Slavery, 1836, Part 3 (2), page 99.

Ditto, page 104.

Ditto, page 148.

I have been anxious, in justice to myself, to offer the foregoing explanation to your Lordship. It might otherwise have been imagined that I had overlooked so important a matter, one so intimately connected with the welfare and happiness of the apprenticed labourer.

I am not aware that I can adopt any better plan for checking the present apparently very exorbitant appraisements than by giving publicity to your Lordship's remarks upon the subject. I shall, therefore, cause an extract from your Lordship's despatch to be printed in the Royal Gazette.

I need hardly observe, that the ages of the two individuals named Francina and Louisa have been erroneously transcribed. Instead of one year and three years, they ought to have been returned, the first at 31, and the second at 31 years of age also.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth.*

—No. 137.—

(No. 415.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 27 November 1837.

No. 137.

WITH reference to the despatch I had the honour of addressing to your Lordship upon the 31st ult., No. 396, I beg to lay before your Lordship the accompanying printed copies of the appraisements of the services of such apprenticed labourers as have purchased their emancipation during the quarter ending on the 30th September of the present year in this colony.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth.*

Enclosure in No. 137.

RETURN of APPRAISEMENTS for *Demerara and Essequibo.*

Name of Apprenticed Labourer appraised.	Age.	Sex.	Registered Employment and Classification.	Amount of Appraisement in Guilders, D. C.	Name of the Employer or Plantation.	Names of Appraisers : 1. Appraiser appointed by Sp. J. 2. Ditto, by Employer. 3. Umpire, by Judge Gloster.	Valuation given in by each Appraiser.	Name of the approving Judge.
July 1837 :	Yrs.			ƒ.			ƒ.	
Alice - -	23	Female	P. A. field -	920	Reps. of Pl. Hamburg	1. W. Dallas - - - 2. Colin Simson - - - 3. B. J. Hopkinson - - -	900 920 920	
Mingay - -	33	Male -	P. A. field -	1,230	Rps. of Pl. Cane Grove	1. Hugh Rogers - - - 2. James Stuart - - - 3. James Anglim - - -	1,200 1,200 —	
Sally - -	61	Female	P. A. field -	900	Reps. of Pl. Enterprise	1. John Gibbs - - - 2. Hector Kemp - - - 3. Geo. Cauty - - -	900 900 —	
Christina - -	—	Female	- ditto -	900	Reps. of Pl. Enterprise	1. John Gibbs - - - 2. Hector Kemp - - - 3. Geo. Cauty - - -	900 900 —	
Judy - -	42	Female	P. A. labourer	900	Rps. of Pl. Ann's Grove	1. A. Wishart - - - 2. H. Kemp - - - 3. Rd. Hancock - - -	800 900 900	
Queen - -	26½	Female	N. P. domestic	330	John Coates - -	1. James Anglim - - - 2. Capt. Warren - - - 3. Rd. Hancock - - -	330 330 —	
Tom - -	50	Male -	P. U. woodcutter	900	George Eyman - -	1. Rd. Hancock - - - 2. Hugh Rogers - - - 3. John Gibbs - - -	900 900 —	
Harriet - -	55	Female	N. P. jobber -	300	Elizabeth Game -	1. William Roach - - - 2. James Stuart - - - 3. Dr. Vries - - -	300 300 —	
Prince - -	18	Male -	N. P. jobbing (N.B. an invalid.)	22	Elizabeth Game -	1. William Roach - - - 2. James Stuart - - - 3. Dr. Vries - - -	22 22 —	
Robert - -	10	Male -	N. P. none -	220	Elizabeth Game -	1. W. Roach - - - 2. James Stuart - - - 3. Dr. Vries - - -	220 220 —	
Nancy - -	38	Female	N. P. domestic	290	The minors Waddell -	1. J. M. M'Gusty - - - 2. A. Wishart - - - 3. Hugh Rogers - - -	220 400 290	
Friday (the younger).	9	Male -	P. A. none -	264	Reps. of Pl. Taymouth, { minor - - -	1. William Hick - - - 2. William Arrindell - - - 3. A. Wishart - - -	264 264 —	
May - -	28	Male -	N. P. labourer	1,500	J. P. Spaman - -	1. Hugh Rogers - - - 2. Rd. Hancock - - - 3. Dr. Vries - - -	1,500 1,500 —	
Nancy - -	44	Female	P. A. washer -	660	Pln. Maryville - -	1. Rd. Hancock - - - 2. Charles Palmer - - - 3. Hector Kemp - - -	660 660 —	Chief Justice Bent.
Daboo - -	28	Female	P. A. field -	770	Plas. Rome and Houston	1. Colin Simson - - - 2. A. F. Baird - - - 3. David Rose - - -	800 700 770	
August 1837 :								
Maria - -	26	Female	P. A. field -	800	Reps. of Pl. Blankenburg	1. R. S. Turton - - - 2. E. L. Christiani - - - 3. J. V. Nedderman - - -	750 850 800	
Rebecca - -	16	Female	N. P. domestic	220	The minors Harper -	1. R. S. Turton - - - 2. E. L. Christiani - - - 3. — - - -	220 220 —	
Rosy - -	17	Female	N. P. domestic	300	Amelia Hendy - -	1. J. F. Padmore - - - 2. Jas. Stuart - - - 3. — - - -	300 300 —	
Eve - -	23½	Female	N. P. domestic	250	The minors Waddell -	1. R. S. Turton - - - 2. A. Wishart - - - 3. E. L. Christiani - - -	220 300 250	
Hendrick - -	22	Male -	P. U. field -	660	The estate of E. C. Moll, deceased -	1. R. S. Turton - - - 2. E. L. Christiani - - - 3. — - - -	660 660 —	
Samuel - -	21	Male -	P. A. cooper -	1,200	The Reps. of Pl. Farm	1. R. S. Turton - - - 2. E. L. Christiani - - - 3. R. J. Merchant - - -	1,100 1,200 1,200	
La Fleur - -	22	Male -	P. A. field -	1,200	- ditto - - -	1. R. S. Turton - - - 2. E. L. Christiani - - - 3. R. J. Merchant - - -	1,100 1,200 1,200	
Jenny - -	36	Female	P. A. field -	840	Reps. of Pl. Triumph	1. R. S. Turton - - - 2. U. J. F. Bach - - - 3. — - - -	840 840 —	
Pomona - -	31½	Female	P. A. nurse -	800	Reps. of Pl. Hope -	1. Thos. Hubbard - - - 2. U. J. F. Bach - - - 3. A. E. Luthers - - -	800 800 —	
Belinda - -	38½	Female	P. A. jobber -	700	Reps. of Pl. La Bonne Intention -	1. H. Montaroux - - - 2. Jas. Stuart - - - 3. S. B. L. Backer - - -	700 700 —	
William - -	52	Male -	P. A. field -	1,000	Reps. of Pl. Good Success -	1. Thos. Hubbard - - - 2. J. A. Holmes - - - 3. Richard Haynes - - -	1,000 1,000 —	

SLAVERY IN THE BRITISH COLONIES.

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RETURN of APPRAISEMENTS for *Demerara* and *Essequibo*—continued.

Name of Apprenticed Labourer appraised.	Age.	Sex.	Registered Employment and Classification.	Amount of Appraisement in Guilders, D. C.	Name of the Employer or Plantation.	Names of Appraisers : 1. Appraiser appointed by Sp. J. 2. Ditto, by Employe r: 3. Umpire, by Judge Gloster.	Valuation given in by each Appraiser.	Name of the approving Judge.
August 1837 :	<i>Yrs.</i>			<i>£</i>			<i>£</i>	
Rebecca - -	24½	Female	P. A. field -	950	Reps. of Pl. Garden of Eden - - -	1. Richard Haynes - - - 2. Hon. P. Rose - - - 3. Jas. Pinkerton - - -	880 1,000 950	
Charlotte - -	27	Female	P. A. domestic	450	Reps. of Pl. Great Diamond - - -	1. Thos. Hubbard - - - 2. Richard Haynes - - - 3. A. B. Goring - - -	450 450 —	
Henry - - -	32	Male -	N. P. domestic	330	T. Fetherston and Co.	1. Richard Haynes - - - 2. J. A. Holmes - - - 3. Thos. Hubbard - - -	330 330 —	
Jan - - -	23	Male -	P. U. field -	900	Estate of E. C. Moll, deceased - - -	1. H. Montaroux - - - 2. E. L. Christiani - - - 3. J. A. Holmes - - -	900 900 —	
Sophie - - -	39	Female	N. P. domestic	250	Colonel Goodman -	1. S. B. L. Backer - - - 2. Thomas Hubbard - - - 3. James Pinkerton - - -	218 300 250	
September 1837 :								
Maria - - -	54	Female	N. P. domestic	220	The estate of F. Cort, deceased - - -	1. A. Wishart - - - 2. Colin Simson - - - 3. D. Rose - - -	220 220 —	
Tom - - -	31	Male -	P. A. cooper -	1,661	The Reps. of Pln. Tusschen de Vrienden -	1. Capt. Southey - - - 2. A. A. Frank - - - 3. J. F. Obermuller - - -	1,122 2,244 1,661	
William - - -	9½	Male -	N. P. lt. work	110	Thomas Finlayson -	1. Capt. Southey - - - 2. S. Harvey - - - 3. G. Bonyun - - -	110 110 —	
Alexander - -	15	Male -	N. P. lt. work	176	Thomas Finlayson -	1. Capt. Southey - - - 2. S. Harvey - - - 3. G. Bonyun - - -	176 176 —	
Madelaine - -	47	Female	P. U. field -	660	Caroline Count - -	1. Capt. Southey - - - 2. Colin Simson - - - 3. Geo. Cauty - - -	220 750 660	
Polly - - -	29	Female	P. A. field -	440	Reps. of Pln. La Bonne Mere - - -	1. D. McArthur - - - 2. Jas. Stuart - - - 3. Geo. Bonyun - - -	440 500 440	
Bess - - -	30	Female	P. A. agriet. -	880	Reps. of Pln. Drill -	1. A. Wishart - - - 2. H. Kemp - - - 3. S. Harvey - - -	880 880 —	
Mary - - -	57	Female	P. A. washer -	572	Reps. of Pl. New Hope	1. W. B. Pollard - - - 2. James Stuart - - - 3. Colin Simson - - -	500 700 572	
Ruth - - -	9	Female	P. A. none -	132	Reps. of Pl. Canefields	1. George Bear - - - 2. Colin Simson - - - 3. David Rose - - -	132 132 —	
Theresa - - -	30	Female	P. A. field -	1,000	Reps. of Pln. Marionville - - -	1. A. Shaw - - - 2. James Stuart - - - 3. M. Steele - - -	1,000 1,000 —	
Juno - - -	24	Female	P. A. field -	950	Reps. of Pln. Pleasing Hope - - -	1. H. Kemp - - - 2. James Stuart - - - 3. James Taylor - - -	950 950 —	
Henrietta - -	13	Female	P. A. cl. gang	637	Reps. of Pln. Cullen -	1. W. B. Pollard - - - 2. James Taylor - - - 3. J. F. Obermuller - - -	572 640 637	
Dido - - -	24½	Female	P. A. field -	800	Reps. of Pln. Three Friends - - -	1. Thomas Day - - - 2. Colin Simson - - - 3. Geo. Bonyun - - -	800 800 —	

Chief Justice Bent.

George Ross, s. J. P.

— No. 138. —

(No. 10.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 19 January 1838.

No. 138.

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Lordship a return of the apprenticed labourers who have purchased their complete emancipation during the last quarter of the year 1837.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth*.

Enclosure in No. 138.

RETURN of APPRAISEMENTS for *Demerara and Essequibo.*

Name of Apprenticed Labourer appraised.	Age.	Sex.	Registered Employment and Classification.	Amount of Appraisement in Guilders, D. C.	Name of the Employer or Plantation.	Names of Appraisers : 1. Appraiser appointed by Sp. J. 2. Ditto, by Employer. 3. Umpire, by Judge Norton.	Valuation given in by each Appraiser.	Name of the approving Judge.
Nov. 1837 :	<i>Yrs.</i>			<i>ƒ.</i>			<i>ƒ.</i>	
Susannah -	38	Female	P. A. field -	900	Pln. Turkeyen -	1. M. Dyett - 2. E. L. Christiani - 3. J. M. M'Gusty -	900 900 —	Chief Justice Bent.
James -	23	Male	N. P. domestic	300	Lisette Kendrick -	1. R. B. Knight, jr. - 2. N. Chapman - 3. H. Kemp -	226 374 300	
Lucretia -	28	Female	P. A. field -	900	Pln. Uniform -	1. J. Abrams - 2. E. L. Christiani - 3. Jan Koert -	900 900 —	Puisne Judge Norton.
Sophia -	56	Female	P. A. prædial	900	Pln. Lima -	1. W. P. Reid - 2. Andrew Davidson - 3. David Rose -	780 1,000 900	
Ned -	36	Male	P. U. field -	990	H. Burton -	1. J. S. Parnell - 2. J. V. Nedderman - 3. David Rose -	990 990 —	
Amelia -	30	Female	P. A. field -	800	Pln. Anna Catharina -	1. M. Dyett - 2. E. L. Christiani - 3. J. M. M'Gusty -	800 800 —	
Affiba -	36	Female	P. U. field -	800	John Mitchell -	1. Jan Koert - 2. H. Kemp - 3. E. L. Christiani -	800 800 —	
Aurora -	26	Female	P. A. field -	1,000	Pln. Batseba's Lust -	1. Hugh Robertson - 2. E. L. Christiani - 3. D. Rose -	750 1,000 1,000	
Philip -	47	Male	P. A. field -	1,100	Pln. Vauxhall & Westminster -	1. M. Jacobs - 2. J. V. Nedderman - 3. E. L. Christiani -	1,000 1,200 1,100	
Thomas -	38	Male	P. A. field -	1,200	Pln. Strathavon -	1. P. Horan - 2. G. Bonyun - 3. W. P. Reid -	900 1,200 1,200	
Mary or Maria -	26	Female	P. U. field -	750	Griffith Parry -	1. J. M. M'Gusty - 2. C. Liebau - 3. Joseph Beete -	750 750 —	
Jessy -	54	Female	P. U. field -	800	Rev. W. W. Harman -	1. G. F. Fraskini - 2. C. Cross - 3. George Fraser -	800 — 800	
Michael -	27	Male	P. U. field -	935	John H. Watson -	1. W. B. Pollard - 2. George Fraser - 3. Joseph Baum -	935 935 —	
George -	23	Male	N. P. Carpenter	440	William Fraser -	1. George Fraser - 2. A. M'Laren - 3. J. A. Sievwright -	440 440 —	
Fanny -	51	Female	P. A. field -	650	Donald Reid -	1. Jan Koert - 2. H. Howes - 3. J. Coates -	650 650 —	Chief Justice Bent
Lizzy -	30	Female	P. U. timber-cutter.	990	The Heirs of N. W. Pollard -	1. Charles Cross - 2. Geo. Bonyun - 3. Jas. Stuart -	990 990 —	
Jack Will -	49	Male	P. A. cooper -	1,200	Pln. Dochfour -	1. Thomas Day - 2. A. A. Frank - 3. L. W. Boode -	305 1,300 1,200	
Henrietta -	17	Female	N. P. jobbing	220	Mary Rose Stewart -	1. E. L. Christiani - 2. Hon. P. Rose - 3. W. P. Reid -	154 220 220	
Barbary -	22	Female	N. P. field -	200	Michael Thompson -	1. Geo. Fraser - 2. W. Van Sertima - 3. J. M. M'Gusty -	180 200 200	
Pitt -	24	Male	P. A. field -	1,320	Pln. Le Repentir -	1. Chas. Cross - 2. James Stuart - 3. Hon. P. Rose -	1,320 1,320 —	
Mary -	19½	Female	P. A. none -	800	Pln. Little Diamond -	1. C. Liebau - 2. G. F. Fraskini - 3. Joseph Baum -	800 800 —	
Petronella -	54	Female	P. A. none -	200	Pln. Providence -	1. Jan Koert - 2. H. Kemp - 3. Thomas Day -	176 264 200	
Franky -	44	Female	P. A. field -	1,000	Pln. Annandale -	1. Thomas Day - 2. Hon. P. Rose - 3. E. L. Christiani -	750 1,000 1,000	
Xantippe -	35	Female	P. A. field -	850	Pln. Vauxhall & Westminster -	1. H. Kemp - 2. Jan Koert - 3. George Bonyun -	850 850 —	
Fians -	46	Male	P. A. field -	660	Pln. Hague -	1. P. Horan - 2. James Stuart - 3. R. S. Turton -	660 660 —	
Hagar -	29	Female	P. A. field -	750	Pln. Hibernia -	1. Thomas Day - 2. George Bonyun - 3. J. M. M'Gusty -	600 1,000 750	
Frederick, alias Job.	43	Male	P. A. cooper -	1,000	Pln. Ruimveld -	1. C. Liebau - 2. H. Kemp - 3. J. Coates -	1,000 1,000 —	

SLAVERY IN THE BRITISH COLONIES.

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RETURN of APPRAISEMENTS for *Demerara* and *Essequibo*—continued.

Name of apprenticed Labourer appraised.	Age.	Sex.	Registered Employment and Classification.	Amount of Appraisement in Guilders, D. C.	Name of the Employer or Plantation.	Names of Appraisers : 1. Appraiser appointed by Sp. J. 2. Ditto, by Employer. 3. Umpire, by Judge Norton.	Valuation given in by each Appraiser.	Name of the approving Judge.
Dec. 1837 :	<i>Yrs.</i>			<i>ƒ.</i>			<i>ƒ.</i>	
ma -	35	Female	P. A. field -	850	Pl. Spring Hall -	1. J. M. M'Gusty - 2. A. Pearson - 3. E. Dawson -	850 850 —	Chief Justice Bent.
abeth -	38	Female	P. A. field -	1,000	Pl. Good Hope -	1. S. B. L. Backer - 2. James Stuart - 3. J. M. M'Gusty -	1,000 1,000 —	
n -	30	Male	P. A. field -	1,600	Creswell Spencer -	1. J. P. Hicks - 2. Hon. P. Rose - 3. James Stuart -	1,600 1,600 —	
ella -	12½	Female	P. U. none -	800	- ditto -	1. George Runcie - 2. Hon. P. Rose - 3. M. Steel -	800 800 —	
r -	46	Male	P. U. domestic	1,150	W. E. Thompson -	1. E. Berry - 2. M. Steele - 3. E. Dawson -	1,150 1,150 —	
na -	76	Female	P. A. field -	22	Pl. Strathaven -	1. S. B. L. Backer - 2. A. Pearson - 3. E. L. Christiani -	22 110 22	
y -	47	Female	N. P. domestic	220	William Case -	1. Geo. Wight - 2. J. P. Hicks - 3. E. L. Christiani -	220 220 —	
-	37	Male	P. A. field -	1,450	Pl. Chantilly -	1. S. B. L. Backer - 2. D. M'Arthur - 3. E. L. Christiani -	1,450 1,450 —	
y -	24	Female	P. A. field -	800	Pl. Hoff Van Aurich	1. S. B. L. Backer - 2. James Stuart - 3. J. M. M'Gusty -	630 800 800	
ky -	44	Female	P. A. field -	1,000	Pl. Ogle -	1. S. B. L. Backer - 2. Creswell Spencer - 3. J. M. M'Gusty -	1,000 1,000 —	
be -	31	Female	P. A. field -	800	Pl. Wales -	1. A. Stevenson - 2. Hon. P. Rose - 3. Geo. Runcie -	800 800 —	
nda -	57	Female	P. A. field -	880	Pl. Elizabeth Ann	1. S. B. L. Backer - 2. James Stuart - 3. J. M. M'Gusty -	880 880 —	
ois -	27	Male	P. A. field -	1,100	Pl. De Kinderen in St. Mark's -	1. R. S. Turton - 2. E. L. Christiani - 3. W. Davison -	900 1,100 1,100	
lia -	26	Female	P. A. field -	880	Pl. Ogle -	1. George Runcie - 2. W. Davison - 3. J. F. Obermuller -	880 880 —	
-	29	Male	P. A. boat- captain	1,800	Pl. Henrietta -	1. M. Steele - 2. Colin Simson - 3. E. L. Christiani -	1,250 1,880 1,800	
-	41	Female	P. A. washer- woman	880	Pl. Patientia -	1. James Pinkerton - 2. Thomas Brown - 3. Adam Pearson -	880 880 —	
aret -	20	Female	P. A. field -	880	- ditto -	1. James Pinkerton - 2. Thomas Brown - 3. Adam Pearson -	880 880 —	
-	23	Female	N. P. drudge -	264	Alexander Wishart -	1. R. S. Turton - 2. James Pinkerton - 3. E. L. Christiani -	176 264 264	
ia -	10	Female	P. A. Creole gang.	440	Pl. Wisselvallegheid -	1. Geo. Runcie - 2. James Pinkerton - 3. R. S. Turton -	440 440 —	

N. B.—There were no appraisements in October.

George Ross, S. J. P.

RETURN of APPRAISEMENTS for *Berbice* during the Months of October, November and December 1837.

y -	-	Male	P. U. -	1,200	John Chisholm, senr.	- - - - -	Judge Firebrace.
-	-	Female	P. U. -	600	Baillie Chisholm & Co.		
ia -	-	Female	N. P. -	160	Susannah Williams -		
-	-	Female	P. A. -	880	Pl. Philadelphia -		
-	-	Female	P. A. -	800	Pl. Blayndhal -		
je -	-	Female	P. A. -	400	- ditto -		
Ma -	-	Female	P. U. -	550	Estate of A. Kriezer -		

Walter Howard Ware, S. J. P.

(No. 24.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 139.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 12 February 1838.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 15th September, No. 248, in which the name of Mr. Peter Rose, a member of the court of policy, is quoted as one of those gentlemen who have constantly appraised the value of the services of apprenticed labourers desirous of purchasing their emancipation at a high and exorbitant rate, I have the honour to lay before your Lordship a statement received by me from Mr. Rose, accompanied by several explanatory documents.

Papers from Mr.
Peter Rose.

I beg to add, that I have not deemed it right to cause any reply to be given to Mr. Rose. The prolongation of the discussion could afford no satisfactory result; and as we are daily approaching to the period when the valuations in question will no longer be resorted to, I am not aware that any better arrangement can be adopted than the periodical publication of the appraisements, together with the names of the appraisers,—a measure which I have, for some time back, caused to be enforced.

I am, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth*.

Enclosures in No. 139.

OBSERVATIONS on Lord *Glenelg*'s Despatch, dated 15 September 1837, respecting the Appraisements of the Services of Apprenticed Labourers in April, May and June 1837.

Encl. in 139.

THE Right honourable the Lord *Glenelg*, in a despatch dated the 15th September last, an extract of which was published in the Royal Gazette of this colony for general information on the 31st October following, in commenting on the various appraisements referred to in that despatch, having personally alluded to me as an appraiser and member of the court of policy, I have conceived it a duty I owe to myself to submit the following observations in justification of my appraisements, and moreover thus publicly to state them, so as to disabuse the public mind, which might be led to suppose, from the conclusions arrived at by his Lordship, that injustice had been done to the apprenticed labourers by the nominees of employers in estimating the value of the remainder of their services.

His Lordship expresses his surprise at the high rate at which the services of certain apprenticed labourers have been valued; and upon reference to those appraisements, I find that I was an appraiser on the part of employers in seven cases, and most of those cases have been selected by his Lordship as instances of "extraordinary appraisements." His Lordship must recollect that it is not the young, the old or the infirm who apply to have their services appraised, but mostly those in the prime of life, and whose services are most valuable. In proof of this opinion, the appraisements of April, May and June last, referred to by his Lordship, will show that out of 47 persons whose services were appraised, only four were above 45 years of age, and three above 40.

Upon every occasion where I have been called upon to act as an appraiser, I have invariably been governed in my opinion by the qualifications and descriptions of the persons to be appraised, and also the price at which the services of apprenticed labourers were selling for, both at public and private sale.

His Lordship, upon reference to documents attached, numbered 1 to 10, will perceive the description of persons whose services were appraised, and who were more immediately alluded to in his Lordship's despatch, with respect to the value of the services of apprenticed labourers, and in support of the views I have taken as to that value. Let his Lordship refer to the return of the sale of the services of apprenticed labourers at public vendue between the 1st of April and the 31st of October 1837, as contained in document marked (A.) It will be there seen that non-prædials, whose term of service was only 15 months, were sold as high as 1,100 guilders, and that the services of 17 prædials unattached, sold by order of the representatives of the estate of Cook, deceased, were purchased together at an average of 812 guilders, and of that number five may be said, from their age, to be incapable of performing any work, thereby increasing the value of the remainder. By reference to private sales, as contained in documents marked (B.), (C.), (D.) and (E.), his Lordship will perceive that the services of 22 P. U. labourers, belonging to W. McKeand, were purchased on the 23d November 1837 for the sum of £36,300, being an average of 1,650 guilders. The services of 12 P. U. labourers, belonging to D. Grant, were purchased on the 23d November 1837 for the sum of 19,800 guilders, being an average of 1,650 guilders. The services of six P. U. labourers, belonging to J. Bowerbank, were purchased on the 23d November 1837 for 9,900 guilders, being an average of 1,650 guilders. The services of 49 P. U. labourers, belonging to C. Spencer, were purchased on the 1st December

last

last for 4,508 *l.* sterling, being an average of 92 *l.*, or 1,345 guilders. Let his Lordship now look at the registration of these people: of those purchased from W. McKeand, 11 were above 50 years of age, and one above 45; of those from D. Grant, six above 50 years; of those from Bowerbank, two above 50 years and one above 45; of those from C. Spencer, 10 were above 50 and 12 above 45. In comparing, then, the appraisements which appear so enormously high to his Lordship, it will be seen that they fall far short of the actual value of labour; and the better to elucidate this point, take the average of each month, or the total of the three months, in which the services of apprenticed labourers have been valued, and his Lordship will find that the average for April would be 712 guilders, May 987, and June 893, or of the three months together, 838 guilders.

His Lordship, from those returns of appraisement, draws conclusions which appear incomprehensible. His Lordship states that "either the Parliamentary compensation was far beyond what could reasonably be demanded, or the remaining service has been estimated on the most extravagant principles of calculation." I have already proved that the appraisements fall far short of the actual rate at which labour is disposed of in this colony, and therefore the latter conclusion is already answered. But with respect to the compensation received, one would be led to infer, from his Lordship's opinion, that the compensation-money was granted as the difference between the then value of slaves and the value of their labour during the apprenticeship; but such, his Lordship must be aware, was not the case. The compensation-money was given as a supposed equivalent for the loss of labour which the proprietor would be deprived of by the Emancipation Act. If, therefore, the remainder of the services of the apprenticed labourers be as valuable as I have established them to be, the very reverse of his Lordship's conclusion must follow, and the proprietors, so far from receiving more than "could have been demanded," were entitled to a larger amount of compensation for that increased loss which they will sustain by the termination of the apprenticeship.

His Lordship next states, "that if it be really true that, after providing for the maintenance of a field labourer, there remains to his employer a profit of more than 730 guilders per annum, as the valuation of the man Allick seems to imply, I fear that the terms on which labourers introduced into the colony are daily apprenticed must be most unequal and injurious to them." His Lordship must recollect that the importation of these labourers is attended with great risk and expense; that they are people who are unaccustomed to this climate, and to the system of labour in this colony; that they are people of whom nothing is known as to character or disposition; and that a considerable time must elapse before those by whom they are imported can derive any advantage from their labour. His Lordship cannot therefore compare people labouring under these disadvantages with such valuable persons as Allick, Friday, Louisa and others; the former, it will be seen by Document, No. 9, was offered 924 guilders a year, with house doctor and allowances; and Friday now receives a salary of 1,000 guilders a year. His Lordship must further remember that a great benefit is conferred upon the imported labourers by furnishing in many cases the apprenticed labourers with the means of purchasing their discharge from apprenticeship, without any expense to themselves, removing them from those islands where, from the poverty of soil, they with difficulty obtained a livelihood, and who, when their term of service has expired, will be placed on the same footing as other free people.

The next subject to which his Lordship refers is "the variations between the appraisements made by the nominees of the special justice, and by those of the employer." In the opinion expressed by his Lordship on this point, I cannot but concur, for as his Lordship states, "These differences are such as imply some difference of principle, for it is incredible that any two competent persons reasoning on the same principles should habitually reach conclusions so entirely repugnant to each other." Having already given my reasons for the conclusion arrived at by me, let his Lordship call upon Captain Southey, to whom reference is made, to state upon what principle of reasoning he estimates the value of labour; by what method of calculation he valued the services for three years of the man Friday, and the woman Louisa at 308 guilders, when Captain Southey knows that the hire for a common domestic for one year is upwards of 360 guilders. It is not for me to question the competency of individuals to appraise the services of apprenticed labourers, but Captain Southey, from his retired habit of life, and from the little opportunity he has had of judging of the value of the services of apprenticed labourers, could not be said to possess that necessary qualification for an appraiser.

In reference to his Lordship's remarks "that in the month of April, out of 22 cases, 14 were decided by the umpires, and in the month of May, 10 out of 15 were so decided; in the month of June it appears that in every case the nominees of the special justice and of the employer agreed;" it appears that in the months of April and May, of the 24 cases alluded to by his Lordship, Captain Southey was the nominee of the special justice in 20 cases, and with the exception of only two, all were decided by the umpire; whilst in the month of June, he does not appear to have been employed in any case; thus it will be seen that in most cases where a reference has been made to the umpire, Captain Southey has been the nominee of the special justice. This may in some measure explain to his Lordship the remarkable coincidence.

(signed) *Peter Rose.*

LIST of DOCUMENTS referred to in the preceding Observations.

- (No. 1.)—Letter from P. M. Watson, qq., dated 4 November 1837, relative to Venus attached to plantation Helena, and Lydia attached to plantation Brothers.
- (No. 2.)—Letter from William Burnett, qq., dated 3 November 1837, relative to "Catherine" attached to plantation Met en Meerzorg.
- (No. 3.)—Letter from George Park, manager of plantation Sophia, dated 2 November 1837, relative to Betsey attached to said estate.
- (No. 4.)—Letter from Ed. Dawson, qq., plantation Sophia, dated 3 November 1837, relative to ditto.
- (No. 5.)—Certificate of Robert Mackie, medical attendant, plantation Elizabeth Ann, relative to Mary, dated 6 November 1837.
- (No. 6.)—Letter from M. Warner, dated 7 November, relative to ditto.
- (No. 7.)—Letter from W. E. Pierce, dated 13 November, relative to "Mary."
- (No. 8.)—Letter from George Warren, dated 3 November, relative to Friday attached to plantation Taymouth Manor.
- (No. 9.)—Letter from C. W. Lyng, dated 6 November, relative to "Alick," formerly attached to Task Gang.
- (No. 10.)—Certificate by Richard Hancock, relative to Louisa.
- (A.)—Extract Vendue Sales of the Services of Apprenticed Labourers, from the 1st April to the 31st October 1837.
- (B.)—Notarial Extract of Register of Slaves belonging to W. M'Keand; and Certificate of Sale.
- (C.)—Ditto - - - ditto - - - ditto - - - to Donald Grant, and - - - ditto.
- (D.)—Ditto - - - ditto - - - ditto - - - to John Bowerbank, and - - - ditto,
- (E.)—Ditto - - - ditto - - - ditto - - - to C. Spencer, and - - - ditto.

(No. 1.)

Sir,

George Town, 4 November 1837.

IN reply to the inquiry contained in your letter of 2d instant, I beg to state, that the apprenticed labourer Venus attached to plantation Helena, appraised by you in April last, and Lydia attached to plantation Brothers, also appraised by you in the month of May last, were both exceedingly effective, and of the first class of field labourers, and also people in the prime of life.

I am, &c.

(signed) Peter M. Watson,
Attorney of said Plantation.

To the Honourable Peter Rose.

(No. 2.)

Dear Sir,

Demerara, 3 November 1837.

IN answer to your communication of yesterday, I beg to say, that the woman Catherine, apprenticed labourer, attached to plantation Met en Meerzorg, and appraised in April last, is a young, strong and effective negress, wife of Trim, head engineer upon that estate; she had always been employed in what is termed "the strong gang," and I consider that the sum awarded for the remainder of her apprenticeship was inadequate to her services during that time; more particularly as she happened to be appraised immediately subsequent to the promulgation of the first order in council, restricting the term of apprenticeship of labourers imported from the islands; and which, in my opinion, increased the value of our own apprentices 25 per cent.; and by which opinion I was influenced, when subsequently called upon both as appraiser and umpire. To show the facility which labourers have of raising sufficient money to purchase up their time, when they have a wish to do so, I may state that "Catherine," (with that suspicion and distrust now so common among apprentices to their employers), having about half of the sum required lodged in the savings bank, instead of paying the balance to me in small sums within the three months allowed by law, preferred lodging it with one of those low petition-writing agitators that infest this community; who, upon getting it into his hands, absconded with the amount, leaving her to make up the deficiency the best way she could; and which she succeeded in doing a short time after the period allowed her had expired, and though not then bound to do so, I received it from her, having no wish to throw any obstacle in the way of her obtaining full and unrestricted freedom. Your letter to me is answered in the first few lines of this, and I trust you will excuse the remaining (and perhaps superfluous) part of my communication.

I am, &c.

(signed) W. Burnett,

Representative of Plantation Met en Meerzorg.

Peter Rose, Esq.

(No. 3.)

Dear Sir,

Plantation Bel Air, 2 November 1837.

IN reply to your letter of this day's date, with a copy of one from Mr. Peter Rose annexed, I beg to state, that the woman Betsey, formerly belonging to plantation Sophia, was the most effective of any female thereon, constantly performing her allotted work in five days, when the others, with an exception of one or two, took six; this the women, for their own convenience, were permitted to do. As manager of the estate, I never had occasion to find fault with her; I am truly sorry that the property has lost the benefit of her services and example.

The fact is, she would not have left the property had she not been induced to do so by a manager in the neighbourhood, who was an overseer on Sophia in November last, and who cohabited with her; he caused her to apply to be released from her apprenticeship, and furnished her with the whole of the money; the proprietors, conceiving it to be for the young woman's benefit, made no objection.

I am, &c.

(signed) *George Park,*

Manager of Plantation Bel Air and Sophia.

To E. Dawson, Esq. qq.

(No. 4.)

Sir,

George Town, 3 November 1837.

IN answer to your letter of yesterday, requesting to be informed of the capabilities and employment of the apprenticed labourer Betsey attached to plantation Sophia, and appraised by you in April last, I enclose a letter of yesterday's date from Mr. Park, the manager, to whom I sent a copy of your letter.

At the time of appraisement, I represented her to you as a very valuable woman; I derived my information from him; and as he had a better opportunity of knowing her capabilities, I applied to him for the information I now supply you with.

I am, &c.

(signed) *E. Dawson, qq.*

To the Honourable Peter Rose.

(No. 5.)

Leguan, 6 November 1837.

THIS is to certify, under tender of oath, that an apprenticed labourer named Mary, attached to plantation Elizabeth Ann, was in perfect health at the time she left the estate to be appraised; I have always considered her to be one of the most effective women on that estate; and, with the exception of occasional attacks of fever, she has, to my certain knowledge, been exceedingly healthy for the last 12 years.

Since her return to the estate, some weeks after being appraised, she has resumed the usual field labour as a first-rate hand.

(signed) *Robert Mackie, M. R. C. S. L.*

(No. 6.)

Dear Sir,

Elizabeth Ann, 7 November 1837.

THE apprenticed labourer Mary has, for the last six years, been performing a full day's work; and I consider her one of the most effective women on the estate; she was in perfect health when she left the estate for appraisement, and is still so.

I am, &c.

(signed) *M. Warner.*

W. E. Pierce, Esq.

(No. 7.)

George Town, 13 November 1837.

AGREEABLE to your request, conveyed in your letter of 2d instant, I now hand to you enclosed certificate of Dr. Mackie, and note from Mr. Warner, manager of plantation Elizabeth Ann, under my charge, respecting the woman Mary, whom you appraised for me in April last, I think. In addition to what is stated in the above referred to documents, I would add that I feel convinced I could not have supplied her place for the sum she was appraised at, say *f. 1,100*

I am, &c.

(signed) *W. E. Pierce,*

Attorney of Plantation Elizabeth Ann.

To Peter Rose, Esq.

(No. 8.)

Sir,

Demerara, 3 November 1837.

IN reply to your letter of yesterday, requesting that I would state "the capabilities and employment of the apprenticed labourer Friday, attached to plantation Taymouth Manor, appraised by you in May last," I cannot better answer the inquiry respecting his capabilities than by copying the paper I gave him as a character on leaving my service, which was as follows:—"The bearer hereof, Friday, late an apprenticed labourer attached to plantation Taymouth Manor and farm, having purchased the remainder of his services, and having applied to me for a character, this is to certify that I consider him to be sober and honest, and capable of rendering himself generally useful to any gentleman who may employ him."

As regards his employment, he was brought up as a labourer and carpenter on the plantation where he was born, Taymouth Manor, to which his parents belonged ever since their original importation from Africa, and to which his mother, an invalid, and his brother still belong. I employed him as a confidential servant, and considered him one of those few negroes whose services to their employer cannot justly be appreciated by a money value, as they cannot easily be replaced. From the confidence I was known to place in him, he was enabled to employ his extra time so advantageously to himself as not only to amass sufficient money to purchase the remainder of his time, but a house likewise in George Town.

I have reason to believe that he was induced to apply to be appraised by the salary of f.1,100 per annum held out to him as sexton of Christchurch, which place he now holds; this takes up so little of his time that he is enabled by other employments to earn in 12 months as much or more than the sum at which you appraised the remainder of his services.

I stated my objections in open court to the appraisalment of Captain Southey as an appraiser, on the grounds,

1st. That he was not a competent judge.

2d. That he could not be considered an impartial one, inasmuch as the wife of Friday was, and had been ever since his arrival here, his domestic servant.

It was on the occasion of his being objected to as an appraiser on the same day that Captain Southey on taking the oath is stated to have added to the words, "so help me God," the expression, "in spite of the planters."

I am, &c.

To the Honourable Peter Rose.

(signed)

Geo. Warren,

Proprietor of Plantation Taymouth Manor and Farm.

(No. 9.)

Dear Sir,

George Town, 6 Nov. 1837.

IN answer to your letter, I beg to state that the man Allick, who formerly belonged to the task-gang under the charge of Mr. Bowerbank, and taken over by the town on the 1st of August last, paid one hundred joes for himself on the 11th of the same month. I offered the man Allick three joes per month, and to find him house, doctor and allowance; I would give him half a joe more per month if he would come and act as an overseer to the gang under my charge,

I am, &c.

To P. Rose, Esq.

(signed)

W. Lyng.

(No. 10.)

IN reference to the appraisalment of the remaining services of P. U. apprenticed labourer "Louisa," belonging to Mrs. Ruperti, in May last (1837), in which case I was appointed on behalf of Mrs. Ruperti, I made it my business to inquire particularly about said Louisa, and found, on good information, that she was almost invaluable to her mistress, being generally useful and well-disposed, had no complaint against her mistress, but had been put up to get herself appraised by her husband, who was only provided with 450 guilders, Demerara currency, and for which sum he expected to have got her for. That from my long residence in this colony (now 22 years), and having had so much to do with negroes and apprenticed labourers, I made my calculation and allowances for the value of said Louisa's remaining services, and fairly, justly, and truly placed them at 1,000 guilders Demerara currency according to the best of my knowledge and judgment, on my oath.

(signed)

Richard Hancock.

SLAVERY IN THE BRITISH COLONIES.

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(A.)

BRITISH GUIANA

Sir,

Vendue Office, 6 Nov. 1837.

IN conformity to directions received through Mr. Secretary Young, dated Court of Policy, 2d instant, I have herewith the honour to forward to you an extract of all vendue sales of the services of apprenticed labourers from the 1st April to the 31st October last.

The Honourable Peter Rose,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) S. A. Goodman, v. m.

EXTRACT from VENDUE SALES BOOK of all SALES of the Services of APPRENTICED LABOURERS effected at PUBLIC VENDUE, from the 1st of April 1837 to date inclusively.

DATE OF SALE.	NAMES OF SELLERS.	NAMES OF LABOURERS.	AGE.	CLASS.	PRICE.
1837:					
April 1	Guad ^{as} Funtman	Mary	38	N. P.	f. 295 - -
-	Ditto	Thomas	12 ⁵ / ₁₂	P. U.	
-	E. Christy	Suckey	57	"	360 - -
15	L. Sandiford	Henry	18	"	220 - -
-	Ditto	Maria	14	"	150 - -
-	Geo. Bear	Floris	18 ³ / ₄	"	434 - -
-	Ditto	Jem	24 ³ / ₄	"	433 - -
-	J. M. Vries, nom. ux.	Phillida	35	"	365 - -
22	Ex ^{rs} W. Urquhart	Charles	49	N. P.	330 - -
-	Ditto	Ned William	27	"	1,105 - -
-	Ditto	Ceazar	27	"	1,100 - -
-	Ditto	Patrick	52	"	1,000 - -
-	Ditto	Susannah	40	"	
-	Ditto	Monday	45	"	1,000 - -
-	Ditto	Natty	39	"	1,090 - -
-	Ditto	Sam Burrowes	37	"	900 - -
-	Ditto	Bets	37	"	
-	Ditto	William	9	"	
-	Ditto	Gilbert	15	"	200 - -
-	Ditto	Charles	50	P. U.	1,050 - -
-	Ditto	Phœbe	45	"	
-	Ditto	France	45	N. P.	530 - -
-	Ditto	Abany	46	"	620 - -
-	Ditto	Harry	47	"	880 - -
-	Ditto	Wentworth	54	"	660 - -
-	Ditto	Betsey	51	"	1,645 - -
-	Ditto	Job	19	"	
-	Ditto	Antoinette	25	"	900 - -
-	Ditto	Jeffrey	33	"	
-	Ditto	Providence	57	"	180 - -
-	Ditto	Patience	26	"	600 - -
-	Ditto	Massey	42	"	
-	Ditto	Celia	53	"	720 - -
-	Ditto	Quashie	49	"	
-	Ditto	Massey	10	"	440 - -
-	Ditto	Ann	27	"	
-	Ditto	Hannah	7	"	440 - -
-	Ditto	Adjeiba	30	"	650 - -
-	Ditto	Joe	55	"	2,410 - -
-	Ditto	Petro	47	"	
-	Ditto	Jean	40	"	700 - -
-	Ditto	Thomas	12	"	
-	Ditto	Jemmy or Archy	16	"	660 - -
-	Ditto	Trim	47	"	800 - -
-	Ditto	Simon	51	"	690 - -
-	Ditto	Thomas	31	"	310 - -
-	Ditto	Will	45	"	720 - -
-	Ditto	Dolphin	57	"	750 - -
-	Ditto	Jupiter	44	"	115 - -
-	Ditto	Chance	39	"	580 - -
-	Ditto	Newton	45	"	270 - -
-	Ditto	Buck Harry	51	"	490 - -
-	Ditto	Robin Sam	51	"	450 - -
-	Ditto	Guy	45	"	700 - -
-	Ditto	Samson	49	"	810 - -
-	Ditto	Simon	45	"	
-	Ditto	Louis	34	"	500 - -
-	Ditto	Hester	57	"	
-	Ditto	Moses	18	"	500 - -
-	Ditto	John William	14 ¹ / ₃	"	
-	Ditto	Mary	18	"	500 - -
-	Ditto	Rebecca	11 ¹ / ₂	"	

BRITISH GUIANA.

EXTRACT from Vendue Sales Book—continued.

DATE OF SALE.	NAMES OF SELLERS.	NAMES OF LABOURERS.	AGE.	CLASS.	PRICE.
1837:					
April 22	Ex ^{rs} W. Urquhart	Mulatto Thomas	27	N. P.	f. 780 - -
—	Ditto	Billy	32	"	820 - -
—	Ditto	Hazard	43	"	660 - -
—	Ditto	Bona	25	"	660 - -
—	Ditto	John Screw	24	"	450 - -
—	Ditto	Thomas	47	"	820 - -
—	Ditto	Industry	32	"	260 - -
—	Ditto	Yammie	55	"	780 - -
—	Ditto	Andrew	17½	"	385 - -
—	Ditto	Rodney	63	"	740 - -
—	Ditto	Fortune	43	"	760 - -
—	Ditto	Goodluck	50	"	720 - -
—	Ditto	Harry	52	"	720 - -
—	Ditto	Mingo	23	"	110 - -
—	Ditto	Susey	47	"	720 - -
—	Ditto	Frank	39	"	950 - -
—	Ditto	Edmund	28	"	630 - -
—	Ditto	William	27	"	700 - -
—	Ditto	Ben	44	"	830 - -
—	Ditto	John	18	"	700 - -
—	Ditto	Ben	44	"	610 - -
—	Ditto	Providence	33	"	115 - -
—	Ditto	Jim	45	"	110 - -
—	Ditto	Tom	45	"	820 - -
—	Ditto	Peter	19¾	"	47
—	Ditto	Neptune	47	"	47
—	Ditto	Beminda	47	"	19
—	Ditto	Ben	19	"	13
—	Ditto	Cornelius	13	"	11¼
—	Ditto	Melissa	11¼	"	9
—	Ditto	Maria	9	"	60
May 6	Ex ^r M'Gowan	Sylvia	60	"	260 - -
— 22	A. Meertens	Alfred	25	P. U.	2,000 - -
—	Ditto	Billy	29	"	600 - -
—	Ditto	Tiverton	47	"	220 - -
—	Ex ^{rs} R. Buchanan	William	19	N. P.	220 - -
June 20	Ex ^{rs} C. Sandiford	Fatima	57	P. U.	780 - -
—	Ditto	Louis Christmas	11	"	65 - -
—	Ditto	Minna	32	"	330 - -
—	Ditto	Sophia Johanna	16	"	260 - -
—	Ditto	Delia	55	"	300 - -
July 7	Ex ^{rs} J. Maxwell	Frans	60	"	100 - -
— 10	D. Fallant	Eliza	25	N. P.	345 - -
August 2	Board of Orphans	La Fleur	40	P. U.	185 - -
—	Ditto	Ann	52	N. P.	132 - -
—	Ditto	Souvenir	29	"	748 - -
—	Ditto	Rosa	45	P. U.	215 - -
— 3	J. M'Kay, P. & qq.	Diana	50	N. P.	110 - -
—	Ditto	Rachel	43	"	400 - -
—	Ditto	Catherine	18	"	400 - -
—	Ditto	Violet	14	"	300 - -
—	Ex ^{rs} R. Buchanan	Michael	24	"	1,050 - -
— 16	Amata Ernst	Charlotte	18	"	2,100 - -
—	Guad. Hasperhoeven	Christian	44	P. U.	270 - -
— 18	Board of Orphans	Elphin and William	25	N. P.	612 - -
—	Ditto	L'Esperance	54	P. U.	356 - -
— 24/25	Ex ^{rs} D. M'Intosh	Nelson	46	"	730 - -
—	Ditto	Michael	26	"	—
—	Ditto	Charles	28	"	—
—	Ditto	Carl	52	"	—
—	Ditto	Paddy	43	N. P.	—
—	Ditto	William	55	P. U.	—
Sept. 9	Ex ^{rs} A. D. Ross	Charles	15	"	—
—	Repts Est. J. Cook	Ben	60	"	—
—	Ditto	Lawrence	58	"	—
—	Ditto	Isaac	58	"	—
—	Ditto	Moses	55	"	—
—	Ditto	Christmas	27	"	—
—	Ditto	Nancy	58	"	—
—	Ditto	Betsey	45	"	—
—	Ditto	Leah	41	"	—
—	Ditto	Kitty	32	"	13,200 - -
—	Ditto	Rosalind	33	"	—
—	Ditto	Amayllis	30	"	—

EXTRACT from Vendue Sales Book—continued.

BRITISH GUIANA.

DATE OF SALE.	NAMES OF SELLERS.	NAMES OF LABOURERS.	AGE.	CLASS.	PRICE.
1837:					
Sept. 9	Repts Est. J. Cook - -	Henry - - -	24	P. U.	
—	Ditto - - -	Fanny - - -	23	"	
—	Ditto - - -	Augusta or Amba - -	19	"	
—	Ditto - - -	Peggy - - -	18	"	
—	Ditto - - -	Jane - - -	17	"	
—	Ditto - - -	Peggy - - -	16	"	
— 19	C. R. Slayter - - -	Andrew - - -	28	N. P.	f. 115 - -
—	John Beete - - -	Charles - - -	19	P. U.	1,000 - -
— 30	W. Coey - - -	Billy - - -	17	N. P.	300 - -

(signed)

S. A. Goodman,

Vendue Master.

(A true extract.)

Demerara, 31 October 1837.

(signed) W. J. Hicks, Bookkeeper.

(B.)

DEMERARA and ESSEQUIBO.—Registration of Apprenticed Labourers.

No. 435.—SCHEDULE.

Parish of St. Mary.

EXTRACT from the RETURN of SLAVES belonging to and in the lawful possession of *William M'Keand*, on the 20th day of March 1834, having reference to Schedule, No. 165, Registered folio 12 in the Register of Slaves for the 31st of May 1832.

Sex.	Names.	Colour.	Age.	Bodily Marks.	Condition.	Country.	Employment.	Class.
Male	Harry - -	black	52	black scar, right heel.	able -	Africa -	field -	P. U.
"	Lewis - -	"	35	none - -	" -	Dominica -	" -	"
"	Cornwallis - -	"	50	" - -	" -	Africa -	" -	"
"	Ben - -	"	57	cont ^s marks -	healthy -	" -	" -	"
"	Jem - -	"	49	scars on leg -	able -	" -	" -	"
"	Allick - -	"	31	none - -	" -	Demerara -	" -	"
"	Ben - -	"	32	" - -	" -	" -	" -	"
"	Adam - -	"	36	" - -	" -	" -	" -	"
"	Bob - -	"	16	" - -	" -	" -	" -	"
"	Bob - -	"	45	" - -	" -	Africa -	" -	"
"	Cummings - -	"	32	" - -	" -	Demerara -	" -	"
"	De Groot - -	"	47	" - -	" -	Africa -	" -	"
"	Dick - -	"	39	" - -	" -	" -	" -	"
"	Hoop - -	"	21	" - -	" -	Demerara -	" -	"
"	Jaaen - -	"	26	" - -	" -	Creole -	" -	"
"	Mingo - -	"	47	" - -	" -	Africa -	" -	"
"	M'Kenzie - -	"	52	" - -	" -	" -	" -	"
"	Quintus - -	"	47	" - -	" -	" -	" -	"
"	Sam - -	"	34	" - -	" -	Creole -	" -	"
"	Anthony - -	"	45	" - -	" -	Africa -	" -	"
"	Joy - -	"	43	" - -	" -	" -	" -	"
"	Ned - -	"	50	" - -	" -	" -	" -	"

Registrar's Office of the District of Demerara and Essequibo, in the Colony of British Guiana, this 22d July 1837.

(A true extract.)

(Quod attestor.)

(signed)

Gordon C. Reid, s. c.

Names of the under-mentioned 22 (twenty-two) apprenticed labourers, being part of the above-named, sold on the 10th November 1837, by James Stewart, attorney of William M'Keand, to the Town Council, for the sum of 36,300 Guilders, payable in six equal half-yearly instalments of f. 6,050.

MALES.

Allick.	Dick.	De Groot.
Jem.	Big Bob.	Jan.
Harry.	Little Bob.	M'Kenzie.
Cornwallis.	Hope.	Anthony.
Creole Ben.	Lewis.	Ned.
Congo Ben.	Cummings.	Joy.
Quintus.	Sam.	Mingo.
Adam.		

(Quod attestor.)

(signed)

Gordon C. Reid,

Sworn Clerk and Notary Public, Registrar's Office, Demerara and Essequibo.

BRITISH GUIANA.

(C.)

DEMERARA and ESSEQUIBO.—Registration of Apprenticed Labourers.

No. 1821.—SCHEDULE.

Parish of St. Mary.

EXTRACT from the RETURN of SLAVES belonging to me, in the lawful possession of *Donald Grant*, on the 20th day of March 1834, having reference to Schedule, No. 512, Registered folio 44 in the Register of Slaves for the 31st of May 1832.

Sex.	Names.	Colour.	Age.	Bodily Marks.	Condition.	Country.	Employment.	Class.
Male	Adam - -	black	33	none - -	healthy -	Demerara	field -	P. U.
"	Inglis - -	"	29	" - -	" -	" -	" -	"
"	Glasgow - -	"	47	" - -	" -	Africa -	" -	"
"	Hector - -	"	47	" - -	" -	" -	" -	"
"	Saturday - -	"	47	" - -	" -	" -	" -	"
"	Robinson - -	"	34	" - -	" -	Demerara	" -	"
"	Apollo - -	"	57	" - -	" -	" -	" -	"
Female	Eliza - -	"	52	" - -	" -	Africa -	" -	"
"	Mary Lewis - -	"	49	" - -	" -	" -	" -	"
"	Petronella - -	"	33	" - -	" -	Demerara	" -	"
"	Sally - -	"	11 $\frac{3}{4}$	" - -	" -	" -	" -	"
Male	September - -	"	29	" - -	" -	" -	" -	"

Registrar's Office of the District of Demerara and Essequibo, in the Colony of British Guiana,
22 July 1837.

(A true copy.)

(Quod attestor.)

(signed)

Gordon C. Reid, s. c.

Names of the under-mentioned 12 (twelve) apprenticed labourers, being the above-named, sold on the 10th November 1837, by James Stuart, executor to the last will and testament of Donald Grant, deceased, to the Town Council, for the sum of 19,800 Guilders, payable in six half-yearly instalments of *f.* 3,300 each.

MALES.

Adam.
Inglis.
Glasgow.
Hector.
Saturday.
Apollo.
September.
Robinson.

(Quod attestor.)

FEMALES.

Eliza.
Mary Lewis.
Petronella.
Sally.

(signed)

Gordon C. Reid,
Sworn Clerk and Notary Public, Registrar's
Office, Demerara and Essequibo.

(D.)

DEMERARA and ESSEQUIBO.—Registration of Apprenticed Labourers.

No. 204.—SCHEDULE.

Parish of St. Matthew.

EXTRACT from the RETURN of SLAVES belonging to *John Bowerbank*, in the lawful possession of himself, on the 20th day of March 1834, having reference to Schedule, No. 735, Registered folio 2249 in the Register of Slaves for the 31st of May 1832.

Sex.	Names.	Colour.	Age.	Bodily Marks.	Condition.	Country.	Employment.	Class.
Male	October - -	black	42	none - -	effective	Demerara	field -	P. U.
"	David - -	"	27	" - -	" -	" -	" -	"
"	Nestor - -	"	50	cont ^g marks	" -	Africa -	" -	"
"	April - -	"	47	none - -	" -	" -	" -	"
"	Pedro - -	"	23	" - -	" -	Demerara	" -	"
"	Bob - -	"	21	" - -	" -	" -	" -	"

Registrar's Office of the District of Demerara and Essequibo, in the Colony of British Guiana,
the 22d day of July 1837.

(A true extract.)

(Quod attestor.)

(signed)

Gordon C. Reid,
s. c. and Notary Public.

Names of the under-mentioned 6 (six) apprenticed labourers, being the above-named, sold on the 10th November 1837, by John Bowerbank, to the Town Council, for the sum of 9,900 Guilders, payable in six half-yearly instalments of *f.* 1,650 each.

MALES.

David.
October.
Nestor.
April.
Bob.
Pedro.

(Quod attestor.)

(signed)

Gordon C. Reid,
Sworn Clerk and Notary Public, Registrar's
Office, Demerara and Essequibo.

(E.)

DEMERARA and ESSEQUIBO.—Registration of Apprenticed Labourers.

No. 1866.—SCHEDULE.

Parish of St. Paul.

THE RETURN of SLAVES belonging to *Creswell Spencer*, in the lawful possession of himself, on the 20th day of March 1834, having reference to Schedule, No. 1621, Registered folio 367 in the Register of Slaves for the 31st of May 1832.

Sex.	Names.	Colour.	Age.	Bodily Marks.	Condi- tion.	Country.	Employ- ment.	Class.
			Yrs. Mo.					
Male	Alexander	black	45	—	—	—	—	—
"	Anthony	"	42	—	—	—	—	—
"	Bedford	"	45	—	—	—	—	—
"	Bristol	"	46	—	—	—	—	—
"	Cash	"	35	—	—	—	—	—
"	Dick	"	18	9	—	Demerara	—	—
"	Davy	"	45	—	—	Africa	—	—
"	Felix	"	43	—	—	—	—	—
"	Fraser	"	41	—	—	—	—	—
"	February	"	36	—	—	—	—	—
"	Goodluck	"	45	—	cont ^g marks	—	—	—
"	George	"	44	—	—	—	—	—
"	Henry	"	45	—	none	—	—	—
"	Henry	"	40	—	—	—	—	—
"	Harry	"	42	—	cont ^g marks	—	—	—
"	Jem	"	46	—	none	—	—	—
"	John Charles	"	40	—	—	Grenada	—	—
"	Joe	"	40	—	—	Africa	—	—
"	La Fleur	"	39	—	two toes grown together.	—	—	—
"	Quamina	"	40	—	none	—	—	—
"	Rutland	"	47	—	—	—	—	—
"	Simon	"	43	—	—	—	—	—
"	Tom	"	47	—	—	—	—	—
"	William	"	46	—	—	—	—	—
"	William James	"	18	—	—	Demerara	—	—
"	Phoenix	"	28	—	—	—	—	—
"	Sam	"	23	—	—	Africa	—	—
"	Harry	"	40	—	blind, left eye	—	—	—
"	Joe	"	37	—	none	—	—	—
"	Peter	"	27	—	—	Demerara	—	—
"	Daphnes	"	42	—	—	Africa	—	—
"	George	"	14	4	—	Demerara	—	—
"	James	"	14	6	—	—	—	—
"	Heathcote	"	15	5	—	—	—	—
"	Isaac	"	33	—	—	—	field	—
"	Nelson	"	32	—	—	—	—	—
"	Triumph	"	37	—	—	—	—	—
"	Welcome	"	39	—	—	—	—	—
"	Quamina	"	34	—	—	—	—	—
"	Jaba	"	30	—	—	—	—	—
"	Do Little	"	27	—	—	—	—	—
"	Cobus	"	39	—	scars on nose	Essequibo	—	—
"	Hard Times	"	39	—	none	Demerara	—	—
"	Charles	"	12	8	—	—	—	—
"	Fortune	"	16	2	—	—	—	—
"	Daniel	"	36	—	—	—	—	—
"	Robin	"	26	—	—	Berbice	—	—
"	Mourant	"	19	—	—	—	—	—
Female	Mary	"	39	—	—	Barbados	—	—

(A true extract.)

Registrar's Office, George Town,
Demerara, 7 Dec. 1837.

(Quod attestor.)

(signed)

W. J. Martinus, s. c.

The above-mentioned 49 (forty-nine) apprenticed labourers were sold on the 7th December 1837, by *Creswell Spencer* to *Thomas Colin Sand*, as attorney of *Spencer Mackay, Esq.*, for the sum of 92 £ sterling per head, say 4,508 £ sterling, payable in Bills of Exchange on London.

(Quod attestor.)

(signed)

Gordon C. Reid,
Sworn Clerk and Notary Public, Registrar's
Office, Demerara and Essequibo.

MISCELLANEOUS.

—No. 140.—

(No. 254.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 140.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 6 December 1836.

Vide Appendix,
No. 6.

I BEG to lay before your Lordship, for his Majesty's approbation, an ordinance (No. 86) passed by myself and the court of policy for regulating the qualification for the exercise of the elective franchise in British Guiana.

I had the honour, in my despatch of the 29th June of last year (No. 16), to submit to your Lordship an ordinance passed by myself and the court of policy upon the 2d May 1835 (No. 57), establishing a new elective franchise instead of that which was formerly held, by being the owner or proprietor of 25 slaves. In that ordinance the elective franchise was fixed at the payment of 70 guilders per annum of direct taxes. The amount, however, of our indirect taxation (from the increase of our importations) has so considerably augmented, that we have reduced, and propose still further to reduce, the direct taxation. Under these circumstances, another qualification became necessary to prevent the decrease of the number of voters. Every person possessing an income of 2,000 guilders (about 142*l.*), from whatever source it may be derived, or whatever may be the rate of taxation to which the income as aforesaid may be liable, has by the new ordinance a corresponding right of voting with the direct tax-payer to the amount of 70 guilders. This new regulation will augment the number of voters to some extent; and in two more years the franchise may be safely lowered, so as to admit all persons having an annual income of 1,500 guilders, which is the lowest income liable to taxation.

I shall have the honour, so soon as the registers under the new ordinance are completed, to submit to your Lordship an epitome of the same.

The additional facilities afforded to the expression of the public feeling by thus extending the elective franchise has given general satisfaction amongst the inhabitants of British Guiana, and will, I respectfully hope, meet with his Majesty's approbation.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth.*

—No. 141.—

(No. 185.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart.

No. 141.

Sir,

Downing-street, 3 February 1837.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch (No. 254) of the 6th December, enclosing an ordinance which has been passed by yourself and the court of policy of British Guiana, "for regulating the qualification of the exercise of the elective franchise."

I have the honour to acquaint you, that his Majesty has been pleased to approve and confirm this ordinance.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg.*

—No. 142.—

BRITISH GUIANA.

(No. 321.)

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 13 May 1837.

No. 142.

(A.)

3.

I BEG to lay before your Lordship a petition, addressed to me by a proprietor of this colony (Mr. J. J. Gilgeons, of Windsor Castle), together with three documents thereto belonging. I have some difficulty in making up my mind as to how far articulated servants imported from Madeira, where they were perfectly free agents, as also how far Dutch slaves, redeemed from slavery for the express purpose of being imported into British Guiana as articulated servants for a definite period, can be considered as coming under the enactments of his Majesty's order in council of the 1st March 1837. I have therefore felt it my duty to forward Mr. Gilgeons's petition, and the documents relative thereto, for your Lordship's decision.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth*.

Enclosures in No. 142.

(A.)

Unto his Excellency Sir *James Carmichael Smyth*, Baronet, K. C. B., Governor in and over the Colony of British Guiana.

Encl. in No. 142.

The humble Petition of *John Jacob Gilgeons*, of plantation Windsor Castle, in the district of Essequibo, in the said colony;

Sheweth,

THAT your petitioner has most humbly to represent to your Excellency the injurious consequences which must result to your petitioner from the enforcement, in some of its particulars, of the order by his Majesty in council of the 1st of March 1837, confirming, with certain exceptions and amendments, the ordinance of your Excellency and the court of policy of the 22d June 1836.

That your petitioner has been an inhabitant of this colony for the period of 37 years, and is at present the proprietor of plantation Windsor Castle, in the district of Essequibo, attached to which plantation there are 280 apprenticed labourers, natives of, or originally connected with, the colony of British Guiana, and 120 indented labourers, not natives of any part of his Majesty's dominions, and never previously connected with this colony.

That from the deficiency of human labour in this colony, and the serious obstructions thereby occasioned to the due and extensive cultivation of the soil, your petitioner was induced, in the course of the year 1835, to proceed to the island of Madeira, with the view of engaging the services of such free persons resident therein as might be disposed to emigrate, in the capacity of agricultural labourers, to the colony of British Guiana.

That at the above period there existed no law, practice or regulation in this colony in any way restricting the rights of the inhabitants in regard to the entering into fair and regular agreements of service with persons of free condition, whether in or out of his Majesty's dominions.

That upon the faith of the colonial law, as it then existed, your petitioner proceeded, upon his arrival at Madeira, to enter into engagements, according to the form and practice of that island, with a variety of individuals, natives thereof, all of whom expressed not merely a perfect readiness, but the strongest anxiety to quit Madeira for the happier prospects of British Guiana.

That a most ample explanation of the future duties and condition of these individuals in British Guiana was afforded by the parties employed by your petitioner; and it will appear by the authenticated copy, now submitted to your Excellency, of one of the original agreements, translated at the time by his Majesty's agent and consul-general for the islands of Madeira, the tenor of which is identical with that of all the others, not only that the arrangements on the part of your petitioner were of a just and liberal nature, but that the individuals so indented were thereby relieved from a state of utter idleness and destitution then existing in their native country.

No. 1

That the said indented parties, having been equipped and conveyed at the sole expense of your petitioner, proceeded, upon their arrival in British Guiana, to plantation Windsor Castle, the property of your petitioner, where they have since remained, fulfilling their contracted duties with cheerfulness and fidelity.

That in the latter part of the year 1836, your petitioner, with the view of obtaining an additional supply of labour, proceeded to the island of Curaçao, a Dutch colony in the West Indies, in which negro slavery continues to be maintained by the full force of the law.

That from the general poverty of this island, and the consequent privations of the negro labourers, whether free or enslaved, the same anxiety to be enabled to proceed to British Guiana, which had previously occurred at Madeira, was expressed at Curaçao.

BRITISH GUIANA.

That your petitioner, thereupon, entered into an arrangement with not fewer than 57 individuals, then in a state of slavery, by which the manumission of these persons was purchased at a great expense by your petitioner, on the understanding that the parties, when actually emancipated, were voluntarily to engage, upon terms very favourable to themselves, in the agricultural service of your petitioner for the limited period of six years.

(No. 2.) That these individuals, having received their freedom, did accordingly, and of their own free-will, enter into an agreement with your petitioner, after the form and practice observed in Curaçao, a sworn translation of which is herewith humbly submitted to your Excellency, and were thereafter conveyed, at the sole expense of your petitioner, from the colony of Curaçao to the plantation Windsor Castle, in the district of Essequibo.

That by virtue of this agreement, the parties therein mentioned have not only become entitled, at the hands of your petitioner, to the full allowances, provision grounds, lodging and medical attendance of apprenticed labourers in British Guiana, in addition to the monthly wages provided by their agreement, but have, for themselves and their descendants, been emancipated from a state of abject and permanent slavery, in which they were liable at any moment to be for ever separated from their friends and families, and sold for exportation to the neighbouring settlements, particularly to the Spanish slave market at Porto Rico.

That very shortly afterwards your petitioner entered into similar engagements of service at the said island of Curaçao, with 29 persons of free condition, who have also been conveyed to British Guiana at the exclusive expense of your petitioner, and are now engaged with the others in the cultivation at Windsor Castle.

(No. 3.) That the actual outlay of your petitioner, previous to any labour whatever being performed by the persons indented at Madeira and Curaçao, and independently of time, trouble and exposure, exceeds, according to the statement now humbly submitted, the sum of 4,934*l.* sterling; and your petitioner not only relied in the disbursement thereof on the law as then existing in British Guiana, but was encouraged in regard to the contracts at Curaçao by the terms of the enactment contained in the ordinance by your Excellency and the court of policy, then under the consideration of the King in council, by which it was proposed that agreements of service should be valid in this colony, provided they did not exceed seven years in duration.

That in this situation of your petitioner, not only with a large advance of money expended in reliance upon the agreements executed in Madeira and at Curaçao, but with the cultivation of his estate materially depending upon the continued services of the persons who have so contracted with him, an order has been most unexpectedly issued by the King's most excellent Majesty in council, of date the 1st of March 1837, by which the expectations of your petitioner have been very seriously affected.

That it has, *inter alia*, been thereby ordered, that no individual at present bound by any written instrument for the performance of any labour or service in British Guiana shall continue to be bound by such instrument at the expiration of three years from the date thereof.

That by virtue of this sweeping and retrospective enactment, the valuable and important right of your petitioner to the labour of the natives of Madeira now in his employment is restricted from five years to three, while, in regard to the negroes of Curaçao, the interest of your petitioner is abridged to precisely the one-half.

That your petitioner cannot persuade himself that, at the framing of the said order, a situation so peculiar as his could have come within the contemplation of his Majesty in council: he cannot imagine that a penalty so uncalled for could have been purposely applied to a case affecting parties not originally under the authority of the British Crown, all of whom have been conveyed by the humble instrumentality of your petitioner from a state of misery and depression to one of employment and abundance; and a majority of whom, moreover, have been rescued by your petitioner from cruel and perpetual servitude, and admitted to the enjoyment of all the rights of free-born men.

That a very dangerous difficulty has besides arisen in regard to the effect of another enactment of the said order—"That no such indenture of apprenticeship, bond of service, agreement or other instrument as aforesaid, if made or entered into beyond the limits of the said colony of British Guiana, shall be of any force or effect in the said colony, unless the same shall be so entered into in writing in presence of two or more justices of the peace, or magistrates of the colony, territory or place in which the proposed articted servant, tradesman or labourer was resident at the day of the date thereof; nor unless such justices of the peace or magistrates shall have subscribed a certificate, under their respective hands and seals, subjoined to such indenture, bond, agreement or instrument, declaring that such articted servant, tradesman or labourer had appeared before them, the said justices or magistrates, and having by them been duly examined, and appeared fully to understand the terms and nature of such proposed engagement, and had freely and voluntarily entered into the same."

That your petitioner understands that an opinion has been stated in certain quarters that these formalities, with reference to the execution of agreements, bonds or other instruments of service, are alike retrospective with the provisions in regard to the duration of the service itself, in which event it is obvious that every such agreement now in existence in British Guiana would be annihilated at once.

That although your petitioner is advised that the view so entertained, in regard to the alleged retrospective effect of the solemnities enacted by the late order in council, is erroneous, and contrary to the just interpretation of the said order, nevertheless very serious mis-

chief

chief cannot fail to ensue from the general circulation of such opinion, unless at once contradicted by high authority. BRITISH GULANA.

May it therefore please your Excellency to take into consideration what has now been humbly stated by your petitioner, and to grant such relief to your petitioner in the premises as to your Excellency may seem fit, whether by an immediate exercise of such authority as may by law be vested in your Excellency, or otherwise by submitting the hard and peculiar case of your petitioner for the favourable consideration of his Majesty in council.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

John J. Gilgeons.

(No. 1.)

Know all men who may see this instrument of contract in the manner hereafter stipulated, that in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-five, on the eleventh day of the month of August, in the city of Funchal in the island of Madeira, appeared before me, notary public, on one part the Portuguese hereinafter subscribed, and on the other part Keirs & Co., British merchants of this city, as agents for Mr. J. J. Gilgeons, of Demerara; and it was said by the aforesaid Portuguese that being unemployed for want of work, and destitute of the means of subsistence, being informed that they may find happier prospects in the West Indies, and certain of obtaining their passport from the government of this island, they have agreed of their own free-will, and without inducement from any person whatever, with Messrs. Keirs & Co. in the following manner: that they shall embark immediately in the English ship Mars, Captain Peter Martin, at anchor in this port, to be conveyed at the expense of Keirs & Co., or J. J. Gilgeons, to Demerara, or Essequibo and Berbice, to be employed in agricultural labour or any other, under the orders of Mr. Gilgeons or his representatives and successors. The said Portuguese engage to work with satisfaction and good-will, without deceit or malice, observing due respect and obedience to the person or persons who may superintend them, for the space of five years complete from the day of their landing at Demerara during the period of the said five years. Messrs. Keirs & Co., or J. J. Gilgeons or his representatives, shall be bound to pay each of the said Portuguese five Spanish dollars per month, and to each woman who may accompany them, fit to be employed in some work adapted to their condition and abilities, three dollars per month, as long as the aforesaid of either sex may work; but if, through some indisposition exceeding the period of twenty successive days, they should be unable to serve, they shall receive no wages until they have recovered; they shall also be supplied with their daily and necessary food, as well as a residence, a physician, medicines and due treatment when sick, during the said five years. The hours for working every day shall be the same as are customary in those countries; on days of festivals and such as are kept at Demerara, they shall not be compelled to work, unless some urgent necessity may require it. Mr. Gilgeons shall give each of the said Portuguese a piece of ground to cultivate in their vacant hours and days, the produce of which shall belong to them, except those who do not conduct themselves well. When the aforesaid period of five years of this contract is elapsed, the said Portuguese, both men and women, may seek some other way of living they may think proper, without having a right to claim any other pay or responsibility. Should any of the said Portuguese of either sex infringe this contract, each of them shall lose fifty dollars penalty, payable to Mr. J. J. Gilgeons, or his representative or representatives, being obliged to continue in the service if Mr. Gilgeons should think proper, serving with readiness and loyalty; being, on the contrary, punished according to law. Each mechanic going on this voyage shall receive ten dollars per month, being cooper or carpenter; and each boy or girl, under twelve years of age, the wages mentioned in the list to be forwarded by Messrs. Keirs & Co. to Mr. Gilgeons monthly, to which entire credit shall be given, in consequence of the good faith and integrity of said gentlemen; and the aforesaid Keirs & Co. said that they accept this contract for Mr. J. J. Gilgeons, binding themselves to the like penalty of fifty dollars, and to observe and keep the said conditions, that the said Portuguese shall receive good treatment both on their voyage and at Demerara, Berbice and Essequibo. They declare that they have paid and advanced to every Portuguese, on account of their wages, five dollars, to be deducted from their future pay; and they also declare, that in case of advancing any money to the women, it shall be specified in a list to be forwarded to Mr. Gilgeons. It was thus granted and ratified in the presence of the witnesses, Antonio Elias da Costa and Roberto Augusto da Costa, of this city, who have also signed this instrument; Januario Francisco da Costa made it; Manoel Gonsalves Pulgueiro, a cross; Antonia da Silva, a cross; Joas Martinho Rodrigues, a cross; Francisco Fernandes Pedra, a cross; Manoel Gonsalves, a cross; Felis de Freetas, a cross; Keirs & Co., Antonio Elias da Costa, Roberto Augusto da Costa: I, the said notary, who had this instrument extracted from my book of records, to which I refer, subscribing and signing the same with my public signature.

In fidem veritatus.

Januario Francisco da Costa.

BRITISH GUIANA. I, Henry Veitch, Esquire, H. B. Majesty's agent and consul-general for the islands of Madeira, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a faithful translation of the preceding and annexed bond of agreement.

An act whereof being required, I have granted this under my hand and seal of office, at Funchal, island of Madeira, this twenty-first day of August one thousand eight hundred and thirty-five.

(L. S.) (signed) *Henry Veitch,*
Agent and Consul-general.

A true copy from the original exhibited to me, the undersigned sworn clerk and notary public of the Registrar's Office of the district of Demerara and Essequibo, in the colony of British Guiana, for authentication and signature, this twelfth day of May one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven.

(L. S.) (Quod attestor.) *G. Wildoy,*
Sworn Clerk and Notary Public.

(No. 2.)

(Translation.)

On this day, the 9th February 1837, appeared before me, I. J. Rammelman Elsivier, junior, secretary of the island of Curacao, in the presence of the hereinafter mentioned witnesses: Mr. David de Meza, partner of the firm of Abraham Meza & Sons, residing on this island, being, by virtue of the 27th article of the regulations for manumitting slaves in the West Indies, possession of the Netherlands, dated 23d October 1831, appointed to the charge of guardianship of the following minors:

Constantyn Roebel.	Kalister Brakkeput.
Caroline Fak.	Maria Tomasa.
Dorothea Pyl.	Pedro Paula Landbouwer.
Maria Delai.	Martis Hetman.
Maria Gracia.	Barberina Savonet.
Maria Eresin.	Fransina Savonet.
Emelia Kars.	Vincent Brakkeput.
Annetta Savonet.	Martyn Brakkeput.
Joseph Savonet.	Josephina Brakkeput.
Eliza Savonet.	Johannes Brakkeput.
Caroline Brakkeput.	Isenia Brakkeput.
Henia Brakkeput.	Martina Brakkeput.
Roset Brakkeput.	Pier Brakkeput.
Kadet Brakkeput.	

Also of the following:

Michiel Navano.	Geertruida Pouk.
Thomas Jochems.	Hendrik Roevoet.
Jan Chiko.	Bastiaan Savonet.
Martis Feliks.	Fraus Savonet.
Wielem Mars.	Jacobus Savonet.
Joseph Anjel.	Beneto Knip.
Pieter Wed.	Christoppel St. Barbera.
Jan Leonard.	Jan Lorgvliet.
Martis Hilario.	Lodewyk Brakkeput.
Karel Mais.	Clara Savonet.
Thomas Piek.	Adriana Savonet.
Manuel Clement.	Inus Brakkeput.
Elias Ploeg.	Benieta Brakkeput.
Joseph Bisento.	Josepha Brakkeput, and
Maria Stam.	Anthony Claver.
Maria Mersé.	

All of them residing here, and being of professions, agriculturists and labourers, on the first part; and John Jacob Gilgeons, at present here, as proprietor of plantation Windsor Castle, situate in British Guiana, planter, on the other part; which appearers have agreed and contracted as follows:

Article 1.—The appearers on the first part, in consideration of the sums of money paid to their former master for their freedom, as well as the consequent expenses attending the obtaining of their letters of emancipation, do by these presents bind and engage themselves, by and with the first ship's opportunity, which the appearer on the other part shall procure, to depart for Demerara, situate in the said colony of British Guiana, and on their arrival there to enter into the service and the employ of the appearer on the other part, his heirs, executors, attornies or representatives, and, in their capacity as agriculturists and labourers, honestly to perform

perform all work on the said plantation, or on any other estate situate in said colony, and also on all lawful and usual working days to perform all such field or other work of service which are and will be connected with the agriculture, manufactory, preparing and delivering of the produce, or any other work on the said estate, and also to give due obedience and submission to all those who may be appointed over them, and to conduct themselves with zeal, utility and honesty.

Article 2.—That the appearers on the first part shall not commit, or by their knowledge suffer any one else to commit, any depredation, injury or destruction to the property of the appearer on the other part, as also to the property intrusted to his or their care and such for and during the period of six successive years, to be computed from the day of the appearers on the first part's arrival in this colony.

Article 3.—The appearer on the other part, in consideration and as a reward for the due and faithful performance of said services, engages and binds himself, with the exception of the ten last-named minors, to pay as wages, during the six years of their engagement, two dollars per month, and moreover to find and supply the appearers on the first part with good lodgings, food and medicines, and also with medical attendance in case of sickness, as is customary in hospitals on plantations, agreeable to the laws, regulations and usages of the said colony; and with regard to the said ten minors, with good lodging, food, clothing, medicine and medical attendance as before, and no more.

Article 4.—The appearers on the first and second part agree and stipulate that nine hours' assiduous labour shall be considered for one day's work, and all days when the appearers on the first part shall be prevented, from sickness, to perform their allotted labour, exceeding five successive days, shall be made good to the appearer on the other part, his heirs or representatives, immediately after the expiration of this contract; and before the appearers on the first part shall be allowed to leave the estate they are working on, and for every day that the appearers on the first part shall wilfully, and without leave of absence obtained, absent themselves from their work, they shall work and make good two other days, immediately after the expiration of the term of this contract, and before leaving the plantation; and the foregoing shall also apply, in the event of the appearers on the first part becoming indebted to the appearer on the second part, his heirs or representatives, for cash to be advanced and clothing and other articles, in which case the appearers on the first part shall be bound, after the expiration of this contract, to continue to labour for the appearer on the second part, at the same rate and conditions as hereinbefore mentioned, until the appearers of the second part be fully paid and satisfied.

Article 5.—The appearers on the first part finally bind themselves, and give their consent that the appearer on the second part, his heirs or representatives, shall be at liberty to hire them to other persons for such time as may be yet wanting to complete the period of six years.

Lastly.—The appearers on the first and second part bind themselves to comply and fulfil this contract in every part, and to bind, for that purpose, their persons and property according to law.

Thus done and executed at Curaçao, in the presence of Messrs. Cornelius Palm and Johan Frederick Moller as witnesses, and by me, the undersigned colonial secretary, and sworn translator in the English language, interpreted to the appearers on the first part.

The original of this being duly signed.

(Quod attestor.) *I. J. Rammelman Elsivier, jun., Secretary.*

Seen legalisation of the signature of Isaac Johannes Rammelman Elsivier, Colonial Secretary, Curaçao, 11 February 1837.

The Director of Curaçao and dependent Islands,

R. F. van Radias.

By command,

H. Kikkert, 1st Clerk.

Faithfully translated from the Dutch,

W. L. Moline, Sworn Translator.

(No. 3.)

STATE of actual DISBURSEMENTS by Petitioner in respect of One hundred and twenty indentured Labourers, previous to any Labour having been performed by them in *British Guiana*.

MADEIRA.

Gross expense attending import of labourers from the island of	£.	s.	d.
Madeira - - - - -	615	-	-
Being for each individual an original advance of - - -	15	-	-

BRITISH GUIANA.

CURAÇAO.

Cost of purchase of individuals, now indented labourers, formerly slaves, whose names are contained in List, No. 1, with the prices thereof respectively, in guilders of Curaçao	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	f. 14,710
Cost of purchasing individuals whose names are contained in List, No. 2, having been obtained under one agreement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,253
Converted into guilders of Demerara by addition of 20 per cent.										f. 27,963 5,592
										f. 33,555
Amounting, in sterling money, exchange at f.14 an advance in purchase money of	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£. 2,396 15 -
Being for purchase of each of 57 slaves, now indented labourers an advance of	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£. 42 1 -
Expense of voyage to and from Curaçao, including all supplies, charges and disbursements for 86 indented labourers, in currency of Demerara,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	f. 11,932
Or in sterling money	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£. 852 8 8
Expense of erecting cottages for accommodation of said 86 persons, being 15 cottages at f.1,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	f. 15,000
Or in sterling money	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£. 1,071 8 8
Proportion of two preceding disbursements, applicable to 57 indented labourers, formerly slaves	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£. s. d. 22 11 6
Add purchase, as above	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	42 1 -
Being an outlay for each of said 57, previous to any labour having been performed by them, of	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£. 64 12 6
And for each of 29 indented labourers, previously of free condition, previous to any labour having been performed by them, of	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£. 22 11 6

ABSTRACT.

	£.	s.	d.
Total expense of 41 labourers from the island of Madeira	-	-	-
Purchase of 51 slaves at Curaçao	-	-	-
Expenses of voyage for 86 indented labourers	-	-	-
Expense of erecting cottages for said indented labourers	-	-	-
TOTAL outlay of petitioner previous to any labour being performed by indented labourers	-	-	-
	615	-	-
	2,396	15	-
	852	8	8
	1,071	8	8
	4,934	13	4

List, No. 1.

A LIST of SLAVES emancipated and indented at Curaçao, with respective Cost to the Petitioner of their Freedom.

	Guilders.	Cents.
Carolina	-	-
Miguel Navara	-	-
Delai	-	-
Dorothy	-	-
Thomas	-	-
Maria	-	-
Gratia	-	-
Leonard	-	-
Martes	-	-
Ned	-	-
Exsen	-	-
Amelia	-	-
Karel	-	-
Francisco	-	-
	417	50
	417	50
	431	50
	406	-
	619	-
	467	50
	423	50
	756	-
	336	51
	663	-
	372	50
	431	50
	769	-
	419	50

Manoel

SLAVERY IN THE BRITISH COLONIES.

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	Guilders.	Cents.
Manoël - - - - -	669	50
Martes Hilario - - - - -	670	-
Massey and child - - - - -	644	-
Constantine - - - - -	361	75
Elias - - - - -	613	-
William - - - - -	719	-
Angel - - - - -	437	-
Thomas - - - - -	706	50
Joseph Vincento - - - - -	700	-
Hindrick - - - - -	517	50
Anthony - - - - -	613	-
Gertruda - - - - -	654	-
Peter and Maria - - - - -	475	-
<i>f.</i>	14,710	-

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LIST, No. 2.

Annitta.	Vincent.	Benito.
Joseph.	Martin.	Christoffe.
Eliza.	Josephina.	John Zorgvliet.
Carolina.	Johannes.	Lodywik.
Hierna.	Isenia.	Clara.
Roset.	Martina.	Adriana.
Kadet.	Pier.	Juris.
Calisher.	Bastian.	Benito.
Barbarina.	Francisco.	Josepha.
Francina.	Jacobus.	

— No. 143. —

(No. 222.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart.

Sir,

Downing-street, 29 June 1837.

No. 143.

I HAVE received your despatch, No. 321, of the 13th of May, enclosing a petition addressed to you by Mr. J. J. Gilgeons, a proprietor of a plantation called Windsor Castle in British Guiana, in which he represents the injurious consequences which must ensue to him from the enforcement, in some of its particulars, of his late Majesty's order in council of the 1st of last March.

I have to acquaint you, in answer, that I do not perceive, in the late order in council to which the petition refers, any language which could justify the supposition that the validity of contracts of apprenticeship entered into beyond the limits of British Guiana before the date of that order is hereby made to depend upon the previous attestation of the magistrates at the place at which such contracts were completed. In this construction I find myself supported by the opinion of the colonial Attorney-general. The petitioner suggests that the law of Guiana, as it existed antecedently to the enactment of the colonial ordinance on this subject, would have rendered the contracts into which he entered valid, and that the order of March 1837 retrospectively operated upon them, so as to deprive the petitioner of two-fifths in one case, and of one-half in the other, of the stipulated period of service. This is an objection which it is impossible for me to estimate without the aid of a report from the colonial law officer of the Crown. The abridgment of any pre-existing legal right was certainly not contemplated when the order in council was made; but the ordinance which it confirmed, with amendments, must apparently have been liable to precisely the same objection, unless it can be shown that the common law right to which the petitioner refers was precisely commensurate with the rights created by that ordinance. Upon the whole of this branch of the subject, however, it is necessary that further explanations should be given, and especially that it should be shown what the ancient law of Guiana was respecting contracts entered into in foreign countries for the performance of services for a term of years within the colony, and whether the law had made any provision for enforcing the performance of such engagements by the contracting parties, or what, in the event of non-performance, would have been the penalty or the civil remedy. Until all

BRITISH GUIANA.

this shall have been distinctly explained, it will be impossible to reach any confident conclusion on the question, whether the amendments of the Guiana ordinance extinguished any rights, of which the existence was earlier than the date of that ordinance.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg.*

— No. 144. —

(No. 383.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 144.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 7 October 1837.

(A.)

(B.)

(C.)

WITH reference to the despatch of your Lordship, dated the 29th June (No. 222), I beg leave to lay before your Lordship the accompanying copy of a letter received from Mr. Gilgeons, together with copies of the legal opinions of Mr. Smith the barrister, employed by Mr. Gilgeons, as also of the Attorney-general.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth.*

Enclosures in No. 144.

(A.)

Encl. in No. 144.

Sir,

George Town, 18 September 1837.

(A.)

IN reference to the memorial which I presented to his Excellency in May last, and to the copy of the despatch from the Secretary of State enclosed in your letter of 11th August on the subject of that memorial, I now hand you the opinion of counsel on a case submitted by me, embracing the points on which further information was acquired; and that this information may be as full as possible, I request that his Excellency may be pleased to cause the papers to be laid before the colonial law officer of the Crown, for report to be forwarded to the Right honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

I have, &c.

To the Hon. H. E. F. Young, Gov. Sec.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *John J. Gilgeons.*

CASE for the opinion of Counsel, submitted by *John Jacob Gilgeons*, of Plantation Windsor Castle, in Essequibo, British Guiana.

THERE is herewith submitted to counsel a copy of a petition presented by the said *J. J. Gilgeons* to his Excellency Sir James Carmichael Smyth, Bart., Governor in and over the colony of British Guiana, relative to the order by his Majesty in council of the 1st March 1837, setting forth the consequences to him of the said order in council, and praying that his Excellency would grant such relief to him in the premises as to his Excellency might seem fit, whether by an immediate exercise of such authority as might by law be vested in his Excellency, or otherwise by submitting the case for the favourable consideration of his Majesty in council.

His Excellency, having been pleased to forward such petition to his Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, has received in answer thereto a despatch, No. 222, bearing date 29th June last, of which a copy is also herewith submitted.

With reference to the subject matter of these documents, the opinion of counsel is requested on the following queries:

1st.—Previously, and up to the passing of the ordinance of his Excellency and the court of policy of British Guiana of 22d June 1836, was it lawful, by the common law of Demerara and Essequibo in British Guiana, for an inhabitant of that colony to hire parties residing in a foreign country as servants or labourers in the said colony for a term of years; and would the contract of hire, whether entered into in the foreign country or in this colony, be by such law valid?

2d.—Could either of the contracting parties to such contract enforce, by the law of the said colony, performance of the engagements entered into, and by what legal steps; and to what penalty or claim did the party not performing subject himself?

3d.—Was there any restriction, by the common law of Demerara and Essequibo, as to the length of the time of service in such a contract?

4th.—Was the said ordinance required to render a contract of that kind for the period of seven years binding?

(signed) *John J. Gilgeons.*

(B.)

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OPINION.

(B.)

On the first question: I answer without hesitation, that by the common law of Holland, the law of Demerara and Essequibo, it was lawful, previous to the ordinance of the court of policy of 22d June 1836, for an inhabitant of the said colony to hire parties residing in a foreign country as servants or labourers in this colony for a term of years; and the contract of hire of such servants or labourers would by the law of the colony, as it existed previous to 22d June 1836, have been valid and binding.

On the second question: both parties to such a contract had by the common law, as it existed previously to June 1836, a right to enforce the performance of this as of any other contract by an ordinary action at law; and non-performance here, as in other instances, rendered the party liable for the damages thence arising.

On the third question: there was no restriction by the common law of the colony as to the length of service in such a contract, except, perhaps, that it could not be expressly for the whole of a man's life.

On the fourth: the ordinance was not required to render the contract binding for seven years; but it was required to give a more speedy remedy in case of non-performance.

George Town, 14 September 1837.

(signed) *J. L. Smith, jun.*

(True copy.)

(signed) *H. E. F. Young, Gov. Sec.*

(C.)

Office of the Attorney-general,
3 October 1837.

(C.)

Sir,

In obedience to the command of his Excellency the Governor, signified to me through you, accompanied by a despatch of the Right honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, No. 222, dated Downing-street, 29 June 1837, I have to submit the following observations upon what was the ancient law of Guiana respecting contracts entered into in foreign countries for the performance of services for a term of years within British Guiana, and what provision that law had made for enforcing the performance of such engagements by the contracting parties, and what, in the event of non-performance, would have been the penalty or civil remedy.

For greater perspicuity, this subject may be treated of in the following order:—

First.—What was the common law relative to these contracts, as it existed from the capitulation until the 22d of June 1836, when the ordinance, No. 74, intituled, “An Ordinance for the better regulation and enforcement of the relative duties of Masters and Employers, and article Servants, Tradesmen and Labourers in British Guiana,” was passed by the Governor and Court of Policy of the colony?

Secondly.—What alteration of the common law was made by the ordinance?

Thirdly.—What amendments of the ordinance have been made by the order in council of his late Majesty of the 1st March 1837?

By the common law of the colony, as it existed previously to the ordinance, No. 74, a contract of the description alluded to in the despatch was valid if legally entered into according to the laws of the foreign country where the contract was made, and if the parties to the agreement subsequently arrived and resided in British Guiana, the court here would recognize and give effect to such a contract.

“Omnium fere legislatorum consensu ex comitate receptum est ut negocia testamenta cæterique actus secundum leges, loci ubi gesti sunt rite celebrati ubicunque valeant nisi contrarium diserte statutum sit vel infraudem statuti domicilii resalibi gesta est.”

Theses Selectæ
Juris Hollandici,
xxxix

The performance of such engagements was enforced by an ordinary action at law, either for specific performance of the contract or for damages, and if the plaintiff succeeded, the defendant was condemned either to specific performance of his agreement, or to pay damages according to the form of action which the plaintiff had adopted.

At the period when the ordinance, No. 74, was passed, a very large body of labourers had already arrived in the colony from foreign countries under written agreements for service, and the law as it existed was found to be quite inadequate to afford to the parties, in cases of breaches of these contracts, any adequate redress.

If the labourer quitted the service of his employer, or committed any other breach of contract, the only remedy competent to the employer was to bring his action, which occupied, perhaps, a period of 12 or 18 months; and if the employer ultimately obtained a judgment, he obtained it at a very heavy expense, which he had no chance of recovering against the labourer. If, on the other hand, the employer was guilty of a breach of contract, the labourer who had not the means of incurring the expenses of a legal contest

BRITISH GUIANA.

might fairly be said to be without a remedy. It was for these reasons that when the ordinance, No. 74, for the more speedy administration of justice in all cases of breaches of contract between masters and articted servants was passed, the first clause was made pointedly retrospective, for the purpose of making it applicable to all indentures which had then been made, whether executed in or out of his Majesty's dominions, by which means all indentures and labourers in the colony, when the ordinance was passed, were brought within the operation of the new law. The first clause of the ordinance is in the following words:—

“Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by his Excellency the Lieutenant-governor, by and with the advice of the honourable the Court of Policy, that all persons who have been or shall be bound to other persons for the performance, in this colony, of any agricultural, manufacturing, handicraft or other description of labour or service whatsoever, by any indenture of apprenticeship, bond of service, agreement or other instrument of any kind in writing, whether the same be made or entered into in this colony or elsewhere, whether in or out of his Majesty's dominions, with or without stamp, shall be and be considered as articted servants, tradesmen or labourers, within the meaning and for the purposes of this ordinance, and the person or persons to whom such articted servants, tradesmen or labourers shall be so bound, shall be and be considered as the masters or employers of such articted servants, tradesmen or labourers, for all the purposes of this ordinance.”

Some of these contracts in the district of Berbice had been entered into for a period of 14 years' service, but the 10th clause of the ordinance cut down all agreements of the kind to a period of seven years.

The order in council of the 1st March 1837 confirmed the ordinance, No. 74, with amendments, and reduced the term of service to a period of three years.

It clearly enacts (partially adopting the retrospective words of the 1st clause of the ordinance) that no person who hath been or shall be bound to any other person for the performance, in British Guiana, of any agricultural labour, &c. &c., shall by force and virtue of the ordinance be an articted servant, tradesman or labourer, within its true intent and meaning, after the expiration of three years from the date of his agreement for service, and the ordinance itself the order in council extinguishes altogether on the 1st August 1840, with a qualification not necessary to be discussed.

A question has arisen within the colony of some importance, whether children put to learn a trade should not continue to be bound for seven years under the 10th clause of the ordinance, notwithstanding the order in council of the 1st March 1837.

The ordinance undoubtedly extends to the cases of children put to learn trades, as the 8th clause gives the power to parents and guardians as well as to the boards of poor's fund, to apprentice infants of the full age of nine years, and the form of the indenture under the Schedule (A.) referring to indentures of this particular description expressly mentions that the party to whom the infant is bound takes him as his apprentice, “to be taught or instructed in the trade or business of,” &c.

In the order in council of the 1st of March, limiting all indentures under the ordinance (with an exception unnecessary to be stated) to three years, I see no exception made in favour of the indentures mentioned in the 8th clause of the ordinance; and the ordinance itself, as already remarked, is at an end on the 1st of August 1840.

The whole question herein discussed may thus be briefly recapitulated:—

The common law respecting contracts of service, prior to No. 74, fixed no particular limit to their duration.

The ordinance, No. 74, superseded the common law, inasmuch as it fixed a definite limit to contracts of service, and in case their stipulations were violated, gave to the party injured a summary remedy for redress.

The order in council reduced the term of service prescribed by the ordinance, No. 74, and disallowed its operation altogether after the 1st of August 1840.

I have, &c.

(signed) *William Furlonge*, Attorney-general.

(True copy.)

(signed) *H. E. F. Young*, Gov. Sec.

To the Honourable Henry Fox Young,
Government Secretary.

— No. 145. —

BRITISH GUIANA.

(No. 389.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 23 October 1837.

No. 145.

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Lordship a humble memorial, addressed to Her Majesty in Council by the proprietors, merchants, traders and others, inhabitants of the district of Berbice in this province. The memorial relates to the late order in council, shortening the period for which artificers and servants could otherwise, under the ordinance regulating the relative duties of employers and articulated servants, have been indented.

Whatever may be the decision of Her Majesty with respect to the prayer of this memorial, the expressions of the memorialists, wherein they state the sentiments of devout gratitude which they entertain towards the Divine Providence for the high degree of general prosperity which, under the fostering care of his late Majesty, the colony of British Guiana has already attained, and the confidence with which they assert that they look forward to the continuance and increase of those blessings under Her Majesty's reign, will, I most respectfully hope and anticipate, be gratifying to Her Majesty.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth*.

Enclosure in No. 145.

Unto The QUEEN's most Excellent Majesty in Council.

The humble Memorial of the undersigned proprietors and representatives of estates, merchants, traders and others, inhabitants of the district of Berbice, in the colony of British Guiana. Encl. in No. 145.

May it please Your Majesty,

WE, the undersigned proprietors, representatives of proprietors, merchants, traders and others, inhabitants of the district of Berbice, in the colony of British Guiana, are desirous of approaching Your Royal presence in Council, with the assurance of our loyal and dutiful attachment to Your Majesty's Person and Government.

Your memorialists are deeply sensible of the anxious attention with which the interest of the dependencies of the Crown were regarded by Your Majesty's venerated uncle, their late sovereign, William the Fourth, whose name will long be cherished and held in most respectful remembrance, for that paternal regard for the rights and welfare of his subjects, and that strong desire to ameliorate all laws and customs at variance with their prosperity and happiness, which so eminently distinguished his Majesty during the course of his Majesty's memorable reign; and they are devoutly grateful to Divine Providence for the high degree of general prosperity to which, under such fostering care, the colony of British Guiana has already attained.

It is with the fullest confidence Your memorialists look forward to the continuance and increase of those blessings in the reign which has now so propitiously commenced by Your Majesty's accession to the throne, which assurance emboldens them to lay their memorial at the feet of Your Majesty in Council, with the firm belief that the grievances of which they have to complain will at once be removed.

The settlement of British Guiana as a colony, acquired by conquest, has hitherto been subject to the authority of Your Majesty, and Your Majesty's Royal predecessors, in Council.

By the articles of capitulation, on the faith of which the district of Berbice, then a separate colony from Demerara and Essequibo, was surrendered to the Crown of Great Britain in the year 1803, it was conceded to the colonists that the laws and usages of the colony should remain in force and be respected, and that no new institutions should be introduced without the consent of the court of policy, as the legislative authority of the colony.

That, in conformity to his late Majesty's order in council, bearing date the fourth day of March 1831, the colonies of Berbice, Demerara and Essequibo were united, under the name of British Guiana, when the court of policy of the districts of Demerara and Essequibo, with certain prescribed alterations, became the local legislative body of the united colony.

Previous to the 22d day of June 1836, there existed no law, practice or regulations in British Guiana in any way restricting the rights of the inhabitants, in regard to the entering

BRITISH GUIANA.

into fair and regular agreements of service with persons of free condition, whether in or out of Your Majesty's dominions; and where such contracts were entered into by parties, the observance of the stipulated conditions was enforced by virtue of the laws and usages of the colony.

Vide Papers relative to the Abolition of Slavery, 1837, Part 4 (1), page 442; and Appendix to ditto, page 41.

In this situation an ordinance was enacted, on the 22d day of June 1836, by his Excellency Sir James Carmichael Smyth, Baronet, Governor of British Guiana, by and with the advice of the court of policy of the colony, entitled, "An Ordinance for the better regulation and enforcement of the relative duties of Masters and Employers, and articted Servants, Tradesmen and Labourers in British Guiana." By which ordinance it was, *inter alia*, enacted, "That all persons who have been or shall be bound to other persons for the performance in this colony of any agricultural, manufacturing, handicraft or other description of labour or service whatsoever, by any indenture of apprenticeship, bond of service, agreement or other instrument of any kind in writing, whether the same be made or entered into in this colony or elsewhere, whether in or out of his Majesty's dominions, with or without stamp, shall be and be considered as articted servants, tradesmen or labourers within the meaning and for the purposes of this ordinance; and the person or persons to whom such articted servants, tradesmen or labourers shall be so bound, shall be and be considered as the masters or employers of such articted servants, tradesmen or labourers, for the purposes of this ordinance." And, "That no indenture of apprenticeship, bond of service, or other written instrument by which any person shall be bound for the performance of any agricultural, manufacturing or other labour or service in the colony, shall be and continue in force for any period of time exceeding seven years from the commencement thereof."

Vide Papers relative to the Abolition of Slavery, 1837, Part 4 (1), page 442.

Upon the strength and faith of the laws and usages of the colony as they existed previous to the promulgation of the aforesaid colonial ordinance, of the ordinance itself—and such ordinances have always been viewed and received by your memorialists as having the full force of law, until disallowed or altered by orders in council—and of the publication in this colony of a despatch by the Right honourable the Lord Glenelg, Colonial Secretary, addressed to his Excellency the Governor of British Guiana, bearing date the 31st day of October 1836, declaring that ordinance to be in full effect and force until his Majesty's pleasure should be known, and in consequence of the great deficiency of human labour in British Guiana, and the serious obstruction thereby occasioned to the due cultivation of the soil of this extensive and important colony (the resources of which can never be fully developed unless the labouring population is increased by many times their present number), many planters and others, inhabitants of this district, were induced to proceed to the foreign islands of Curaçao, St. Eustatia, St. Thomas, &c., in which negro slavery continues to be maintained by the full force of the law, where they entered into engagements, according to the forms and practices of those islands, with a variety of individuals, both free and enslaved, whereby they bound them to proceed to this district of British Guiana as agricultural labourers, tradesmen or domestic servants, all of whom, from the general poverty of the islands in which they were located, and their consequent privations and miserable condition there, expressed not only a willingness, but the strongest anxiety, to leave these places for the more cheering prospects of British Guiana, upon the favourable conditions stipulated in their indentures.

That with regard to such as were enslaved, arrangements were entered into by which their manumission was purchased, on the understanding that they, when actually emancipated, were voluntarily to engage upon terms uniformly very advantageous to themselves, in the agricultural or other stipulated service of their employers in this colony for a certain period, being in all cases from five to seven years, at the expiry of which indentures, of course, they were to become unconditionally free.

The expense of purchasing the freedom of these individuals, manumitting, indenting and conveying them to this colony, in many instances, amounted to the sum of 80*l.* sterling, and seldom to less than 50*l.* sterling; besides, being furnished with board, lodging, medicine and medical attendance, they receive from their employers certain wages, according to circumstances, varying from two to five dollars a month each, all as stipulated in their indentures.

By virtue of their agreements, such labourers have not only been amply provided with all the necessaries of life during the limited period of their apprenticeship, but have for themselves and their descendants been emancipated from a state of harassing, abject and perpetual slavery, in which they were liable at any moment to be for ever separated from their friends and families, and sold for exportation to the other foreign settlements in which slavery continues to exist with unabated rigour.

With regard to the contracting labourers imported of free condition, there has, it is true, been a much smaller outlay of capital required; but their indentures are generally of shorter duration, and, in all cases, their wages are much higher, varying from 10 to 18 dollars a month.

A most ample explanation of their future duties and condition in British Guiana was uniformly afforded to these labourers, whether free or enslaved, by the parties contracting with them, and those duties were again explained to them on their arrival in this colony by the sheriff of the district, to whom every such indenture falls to be exhibited, that he

may

may satisfy himself that the labourer fully understands its import; and in no instance has that officer of the Crown in the district of Berbice seen cause to object to the conditions stipulated in the contracts as unfair towards the labourer.

In this situation the importers of the labourers in question, not only with a large advance of money expended in reliance upon the proper fulfilment of the agreements entered into with them, but with the cultivation of their estates, in many instances, materially depending upon the continued services of these individuals, an order was very unexpectedly issued by his late Majesty in council, of date the 1st of March 1837, by which the just expectations of the parties contracting with them have been very seriously affected; and generally, this district of the colony cannot fail to be materially injured, provided some of the enactments of that order in council are not repealed or satisfactorily explained.

It is thereby declared, that no individual at present bound by any written instrument for the performance of any labour or service in British Guiana shall continue to be bound by such instrument at the expiration of three years from the date thereof.

By virtue of this most unexpected and retroactive order in council, the continuance of the valuable and important rights of the parties entitled to the services of the labourers imported into this district of British Guiana from the aforesaid foreign islands, and now in their employment, performing their contracted duties with the greatest possible cheerfulness, is in every instance abridged; and, in the great majority of cases, the term of endurance of the contracts is, by its retrospective operation, shortened by more than one-half.

That Your memorialists have always understood that *ex post facto* laws cannot have effect given to them in Great Britain, and that all laws, therefore, framed there are made to commence *in futuro*, and not until they are properly promulgated.

In Dwarries's Treatise on Statutes, and the proper Boundaries of Legislation and of Judicial Interpretation, he observes, "A retroactive statute would partake in its character of the mischiefs of an *ex post facto* law as to all cases of crimes and penalties; and in matters relating to contracts or property would violate every sound principle."—Part II., p. 680.

British Guiana being a colony acquired by conquest is subject to the orders of Your Majesty in Council; but the memorialists are unable to discover any reason why such orders, which are binding on them, should have a retroactive effect, any more than Acts of Parliament, which affect the rights and interests of other portions of the subjects of the Crown. But they cannot persuade themselves that at the framing of the order in question, the abridgment of their then existing just rights was really contemplated; nor can they believe that a penalty so very oppressive could have been purposely applied to cases affecting parties not originally under the authority of the British Crown; a great majority of whom, moreover, have been rescued by the instrumentality of many of Your memorialists from a state of cruel and permanent servitude, in countries where they were invariably kept in utter ignorance of religion, and placed in a colony where instruction is provided for their spiritual wants, and where they are in the possession and enjoyment of the inestimable rights of free-born men.

Your memorialists have also to represent that a difficulty or ambiguity exists in regard to another portion of the said order in council: it is thereby enacted, "That no such indenture of apprenticeship, bond of service, agreement or other instrument as aforesaid, if made or entered into at any place beyond the limits of the said colony of British Guiana, shall be of any force or effect within the said colony, unless the same shall be so entered into in writing in the presence of two or more justices of the peace, or magistrates of the colony, territory or place in which the proposed articted servant, tradesman or labourer was resident at the day of the date thereof; nor unless such justices of the peace or magistrates shall have subscribed a certificate, under their respective hands and seals, subjoined to such indenture, bond, agreement or instrument, declaring that such proposed articted servant, tradesman or labourer had appeared before them, the said justices or magistrates, and having by them been duly examined, had appeared fully to understand the terms and nature of such proposed engagement, and had freely and voluntarily entered into the same."

Your memorialists have reason to know that contrary opinions are entertained in the colony regarding these formalities; some contend that the clause here quoted is alike retrospective with that part of the order which affects the duration of the service of the labourers; and that every agreement between the colonists and the labourers is liable to be set aside at once, for want of witnessing magistrates to the indentures at the places where the contracts were entered into and executed.

Your memorialists do not so interpret that clause of the order; they concur in the view taken of it by the colonial attorney-general, as contained in his opinion, furnished to his Excellency the Governor of the colony on the 1st of May last, in which he says that he feels "inclined to think that indentures are not null and void, on the ground that they have not been executed in presence of two witnessing magistrates;" but as he has expressed some doubts on the subject, and as it is possible that the erroneous construction may be circulated among the persons so indented, and that very serious discontent and mischief may consequently ensue therefrom, your memorialists consider it their duty most respectfully to

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solicit from Your Majesty in Council a contradiction of so dangerous an interpretation of that clause, in order to obviate all difficulty and embarrassment with reference to it.

May it therefore please Your Majesty, by and with the advice of Your most Honourable Privy Council, graciously to take into consideration the hard and peculiar circumstances in which many of Your Majesty's loyal subjects in this colony are placed, by the enactments contained in the aforesaid order in council, and to abrogate and disallow the retrospective effect of the clauses therein inserted, or to grant such other relief in the premises as to Your Majesty in Council may seem to be just and requisite.

And your memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

W. Ross.	James Kirkwood.
George Laing.	William Gunn.
Robert Robertson.	John Patterson.
John Cameron, attorney of Davidsons, Barkly & Co., Lord Reay, executors, estate of William Alves.	W. Nash.
William Cort.	James H. Young.
William Cort, jun.	J. E. Foderingham.
Frederick Cort.	William Scott.
John Cort.	A. Bone.
Robert Smith, M. D.	John Somersall.
J. Chisholm.	Henry Quin.
D. N. Taylor.	R. Marshall.
Thomas Coleman.	John Bethune.
D. Fraser.	F. Langain.
Campbell Faloon, for self, and as representing the estates of James Blair, Hugh M'Calmont, Thomas William Earle & Co., and John Ross.	J. W. Grant.
Lewis Cameron, attorney, Plantation Union.	J. P. Alt.
P. Nicolson.	William Marshall.
P. Oldfield.	John Sharp.
A. Grant.	James Gismond.
S. B. Beresford.	B. Trell.
W. O'Donoghue.	William M'Neil.
N. T. Black.	M. T. B. Campbell.
John Stewart.	William Campbell.
Richard W. Egg.	John Beresford.
M. Bennett.	James Laing.
G. Crass.	L. P. Henery.
W. Fenekenseeper.	John Campbell.
W. von der Marck.	G. Fullarton, jun.
John Riddoch.	James Bone.
James Paterson, for self, and Thomas Williams, proprietor, plantation Prospect and Standvastighead.	Donald Ross.
F. Braithwaite.	William Lyle.
Samuel M'Kirdy.	Roderick M'Kenzie.
John J. Dare.	Alexander Cameron.
A. Macleod.	Charles Matheson.
James Dunlop.	R. Gornall.
Robert J. Gibson.	Evan Cameron.
James Cormicke.	Alexander Winter.
James Russel.	L. A. Earrault.
James Carlile.	A. Houstoun.
J. Franzen.	Robert Grayton.
William Waugh.	Hugh Campbell.
John M'Kenzie.	George Hewley.
R. Burns.	Benjamin Warren.
Robert Fraser.	S. Dawson.
J. Carmichael Jameson.	G. P. Anthony.
D. C. Cameron, by his attorney, James Kirkwood.	George Bone.
	William Cox.
	C. Franzen.
	J. Patovi.
	A. M'Donald.
	T. Theilen.
	C. B. Kip.
	J. Timmey.
	M. J. Timmey.
	C. J. van Rossum.
	William Laing.
	Angus Campbell.

— No. 146. —

BRITISH GUIANA.

(No. 281.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart.

Sir,

Downing-street, 1 January 1838.

No. 146.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches, Nos. 383 and 389, of the 7th and 23d of October; the former enclosing a copy of a letter and other documents from Mr. Gilgeons, on the subject of the order of his late Majesty in council, of the 1st March last, respecting the hiring and apprenticeship of indentured servants in British Guiana; the latter enclosing a memorial from certain merchants and inhabitants of Berbice, also relating to the above order in council of the 1st March.

By the present opportunity, you will receive from me a despatch, enclosing an explanatory order which was passed by Her Majesty in council, on the 11th ultimo, with a view to obviate the misconceptions which had arisen in regard to the previous order. This explanatory order will be found to meet the case of Mr. Gilgeons, and renders any further remark on his present representation unnecessary. It likewise affords the answer which it is my wish that you should return to the other persons, whose memorial you have transmitted; and I trust that it will prove satisfactory to them, as it was with a view to meet the wishes of parties similarly situated with themselves that these modifications of the order in council were made, which must be considered as the only departure from its original provisions which Her Majesty can be advised to sanction.

Vide Papers ordered to be printed by The House of Lords, 27 February 1838, No. 74, p. 44.

Ditto, ditto, by the House of Commons, 2 March 1838, No. 180, p. 44.

I have further to state, with reference to this memorial, that having laid it before The Queen, Her Majesty was pleased to receive it very graciously; and Her Majesty has commanded me to assure you that she fully partakes in those feelings of gratitude to Divine Providence which the memorialists have expressed in the contemplation of the important benefits to all classes of Her Majesty's subjects in the colony, which have resulted from the abolition of slavery, and from the impartial and firm administration of the law.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

— No. 147. —

(No. 347.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 24 June 1837.

No. 147.

I BEG to submit, with every respect, to your Lordship, copy of an ordinance passed by myself and the court of policy, extending the authority of the special justices, and granting to them power to adjudicate in all cases of petty breaches of the peace, petty thefts, and other matters over which they have hitherto had no jurisdiction. As the additional authority thus granted to the special justices is not confined to apprenticed labourers only, but embraces equally all classes of his Majesty's subjects, I feel it my duty to observe to your Lordship, that the passing of this ordinance affords one of the strongest proofs that could be desired of the very great change in the opinions of the inhabitants of this colony. This ordinance, which is now accepted as a boon, would formerly, and not long ago, have been rejected with indignation. The alteration in the public opinion is most gratifying, and encourages me to be very sanguine in my hopes of complete ultimate success.

Vide App. No. 7.

Your Lordship will not fail to observe, that all punishments under this ordinance are by fine and imprisonment; and that the degrading lash is never resorted to.

I hope that this ordinance will meet with his Majesty's most gracious approbation.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth*.

—No. 148.—

(No. 258.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart.

No. 148.

Sir,

Downing-street, 6 October 1837.

I HAVE received your despatch, No. 347, of the 24th June, transmitting copy of an ordinance passed by yourself and the court of policy, for the purpose of extending the jurisdiction of each special justice within his own district to all cases of breaches of the peace which shall not, in his judgment, merit a severer punishment than a penalty of 2*l.* sterling, whether committed by apprentices or others; to all cases of petty theft or receipt of stolen goods, where the value stolen or received does not exceed 2*l.* sterling; and to similarly limited cases of embezzling or obtaining property on false pretences, or of malicious injury to property.

I am not aware of any objection to this jurisdiction, in so far as the subjects and objects of it are concerned; nor do I consider it objectionable as regards the special justices, who are, of course, less laboriously occupied with their peculiar duties now, than they were in the earlier years of the apprenticeship.

With respect to the methods of procedure prescribed by the ordinance, there are only two points on which I have any remarks to make.

1st. By the 7th clause, the special justice is empowered, in cases of breaches of the peace, to administer an oath not only to the accuser, but also to the accused. I advert to this, because I am not aware of any precedent for it in British law, and I think, therefore, that the special justices should be cautioned not to use the powers, unless when the special circumstances of the case shall fully justify it. The cases which are contemplated in the enactment are (as I conceive) those in which it may be a matter of chance, or perhaps of dispute, which party to the breach of the peace accuses the other first, and in which it might seem an injustice to subject one party and not another to the obligations of an oath. If confined to such cases, I am not prepared to say that the exercise of the power of administering an oath to both parties may not be justifiable and expedient.

2d. By the 8th clause, power is given to the special justice to adjourn his proceedings, and in default of security in money, to the amount of 2*l.* sterling, being lodged, to commit "the offender" (meaning, I presume, the accused) to prison pending the adjournment, provided that no adjournment shall exceed 48 hours, except in cases of sickness or other unavoidable cause. I doubt whether 48 hours' confinement previous to conviction, in cases wherein it is not unavoidable, can be properly permitted. I think that 12 hours would be a more fitting maximum where the adjournment is not unavoidable, and that even when it is unavoidable, it should not be extended beyond 48, when that extension involves the necessity of keeping an unconvicted party in prison.

I have to request that you will submit to the court of policy the expediency of amending this ordinance in conformity with this view, unless you should be aware of some adequate reasons to the contrary, which, in that case, you will be pleased to report for my information.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

—No. 149.—

(No. 414.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 149.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 27 November 1837.

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Lordship an authenticated copy of a letter from Mr. Gloster, Her Majesty's Attorney-general in this colony, affording explanation upon those enactments in the ordinance for the purpose of extending the jurisdiction of special justices, respecting which your Lordship, in your despatch of the 6th October, No. 258, required further and more detailed information.

I hope that the explanations offered by Mr. Gloster will be deemed satisfactory by your Lordship.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth*.

Enclosure in No. 149.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Encl. in No. 149.

Sir,

Guiana Public Buildings, 25 Nov. 1837.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 24th instant, enclosing copy of a despatch of the Right honourable the Lord Glenelg, dated the 6th October 1837, No. 258, requesting explanation of some provisions of the ordinance, No. 8, intituled, "An Ordinance for extending the Powers of the Special Justices." The special justice was, by the 7th clause of the ordinance, empowered to administer an oath to the accused precisely for the reasons assigned by his Lordship, and to enable the special justice, in particular complaints, to extract the real truth and justice of the case. It might happen that the party preferring and swearing to a charge of assault was a person of very indifferent character, and the accused of the highest respectability. In such a case it was deemed expedient that the magistrate should have a discretion (if he saw fit to exercise it) to allow to the accused the power of contradicting, by his own oath, the oath of the complainant. The 9th section seems objectionable to his Lordship, as it allows the special justice to commit the party accused, on an adjournment of his proceedings, for 48 hours. The amount of security, 28 guilders, required is so small, and is so readily found by almost every person brought before a magistrate, that perhaps any alteration of the law in this respect may be considered unnecessary, particularly as adjournments in the petty cases which the justice has to try must be very rare.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Henry Gloster*, Attorney-general.

(A true copy.)

(signed) *W. B. Wolseley*, Assist. Gov. Sec.

To the Honourable H. E. F. Young,
Government Secretary.

—No. 150.—

(No. 295.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart.

Sir,

Downing-street, 14 February 1838.

No. 150.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 414, of the 27th of November last, enclosing a letter from the Attorney-general of Guiana, in which he furnishes the explanations which I was desirous of receiving on the subject of the ordinance passed by yourself and the court of policy, "to extend the powers of the special justices."

I have now the honour to inform you, that the Attorney-general's explanations are satisfactory, and that Her Majesty has been pleased to confirm and allow this ordinance.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

—No. 151.—

(No. 360.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 27 July 1837.

No. 151.

I HAVE for some time occupied myself in turning over in my mind the nature of the measures it may be advisable to adopt for the introduction into this colony of a general system of education for the children of the apprenticed labourers. I make use of, upon the present occasion, the word "education" in its most enlarged meaning, as including not only instruction in religious and moral duties, but also habits of application and of industry. The subject is one of primary importance for the future welfare of this province; and consequently, if looked upon as a mere political matter, is deserving of every consideration. When we, however, reflect upon the number of human beings whose eternal as well as whose present happiness is deeply connected with the steps which may be taken, it is impossible not to feel a deep anxiety that that path may be selected which may lead to the most beneficial results.

Impressed as I am with the truth of the foregoing observations, yet I should not discharge my duty to the King's service were I to withhold from your Lordship my opinion of the very great difficulties attending any attempts to legislate upon

BRITISH GUIANA.

so delicate a subject. The apprenticed labourer glories in the freedom of his children, and any measure carrying with it the least appearance of coercion may excite distrust and suspicion. There is happily, however, a general desire amongst them to attend schools; and little more need be done under this, than to cause more masters to be provided, and more school accommodation to be constructed. Habits of labour and of industry must equally, however, be encouraged; and all these young people ought to be taught to gain their livelihood by the performance of agricultural or other labour. To accomplish these objects, without alarming the labourer and losing his confidence, is the problem we have to solve. Upon the mode which may be adopted for educating the children of the apprenticed labourers, the future state of this colony will, in a very great measure, depend.

In the plan which I have it in contemplation to suggest, I propose to lead, not to drive. In the early stages of emancipation, I felt it my duty to resist strenuously every attempt to apprentice the children of the emancipated slaves; and, by so doing, I fortunately acquired the confidence and good-will of the great body of the labourers. My conduct was influenced by the conviction that it was absolutely necessary, on the one hand, to demonstrate practically to the labourer that there was no deception; that his child was as free as any white child; and on the other, to let the planter be made early and fully aware that the days of coercion had completely passed away. The sooner both parties were made acquainted with the exact nature of their new relative duties and situations, the more readily, it always appeared to me, were they likely to arrive at a proper understanding. The feelings both of the employers and of the employed have now happily undergone so complete a change, that I think the moment has arrived when measures relative to the education and the employment of the children of the latter may be discussed. As an additional reason for selecting the present time for bringing forward my views upon this important subject, I hope I may be allowed to allude, without any imputation of vanity, to the confidence which the labouring population have in my administration; and that, consequently, measures sanctioned and recommended by me are much more likely to be carried cheerfully into effect than if proposed, at a later period, by some future Governor, who may not have had the same opportunity of acquiring their attachment and good opinion. I feel also convinced that, at the present moment, four-fifths of the white inhabitants are prepared readily to support the principles and the measures of my government. Under all these circumstances, I venture to lay before your Lordship the following outline of a plan of a general system of education for the children of the labouring classes of this colony.

I. There shall be a schoolroom and a schoolmaster provided, in the proportion of one for every male children throughout the colony.

II. There shall be a schoolroom and a schoolmistress provided, in the proportion of one for every female children throughout the colony.

III. The foregoing regulations not to apply to the wards of George Town, nor to the parish of All Saints, forming the town of New Amsterdam. These towns are already tolerably provided with schools under existing regulations.

IV. In forming a calculation of the number of schools which will be required, under articles I. and II., existing schools, whether kept by the catechists of the several parishes, by the reverend the missionaries, or at the expense of proprietors upon their estates, to be taken into consideration. If the total number of schools is in accordance with the spirit of the enactment as proposed, and that a consequent facility for procuring information and instruction is afforded to the children of the labouring classes to the extent required, that will be deemed sufficient.

V. The parents of the children to pay a small monthly sum towards defraying the expense of these schools. It has been found by experience that where a periodical payment is required, however small in amount, the attendance of the scholar is much more regular than when the instruction is entirely gratuitous.

VI. No boy above the age of to be liable to be kept longer at any of these public schools than hours in the course of each day, so as to enable him to devote a reasonable proportion of each day in providing for his own livelihood, either by working on the estates on which his father may be at work, or in working in the grounds of his father, or by being employed in such occupation as his father may direct. The father to be answerable that his son is not brought up in idleness, but that he is employed usefully and made to contribute towards his own maintenance by performing a certain number of hours' work daily, according to his age and strength.

VII. The

BRITISH GUIANA.

I have, &c.

(Circular.)

Sir,

Encl. 1, in No. 151.

The annexed tabular form will, if carefully filled up, afford to the Governor the details connected with the subject, which his Excellency is desirous of obtaining.

I have, &c.

To the Special Justices.

[illegible]

154.—II.

— No. 152. —

(No. 251.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart.

No. 152.

Sir,

Downing-street, 24 September 1837.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your despatch of the 27th July, No. 360, soliciting the expression of my opinion as to the general principles of the plan you have projected for the education of the youth of British Guiana, and for training them to habits of useful industry, and I will not postpone the declaration of my acquiescence in your views on this subject. On the other hand, as the plan is not yet expanded into those details which it must ultimately embrace, and as it is in the arrangement of those questions that the real difficulties of the undertaking will present themselves, I must be understood as reserving my ultimate opinion until it shall appear how far and in what manner those obstacles may have been surmounted.

I shall be especially anxious to learn what may be the enactments by which you will encounter the obstacle to a national system of education, arising from those differences of opinion by which the Christian world is divided upon various questions of religious belief and ecclesiastical government; how you propose to disarm the jealousy with which the negro population and their descendants have but too naturally learnt to regard every restraint on the freedom of their children originating with Europeans, however kindly intended or judiciously conceived. We have no just right to condemn, however much we may regret, the excess of this feeling, because it is nothing else than the reaction against that system of slavery, for the introduction of which we are responsible, and the evils of which are at length universally acknowledged. It is a jealousy which it is impossible not to respect, even when urged beyond the limits of strict reason and prudence. I can well believe that, in claiming for yourself the confidence of the negro population, you assert nothing more than you are in the fullest sense entitled to claim. But in the contingency to which you have referred, of the administration passing into other hands, this security against discontent would be no longer availing, and, therefore, it would seem desirable, if possible, to adopt other means for the same purpose.

I would therefore suggest for your consideration, whether it might not be possible in some measure to consult the adult apprenticed labourers on the plan before its adoption, and whether they could not be gratified with being made in some sense the apparent authors of the scheme which you have devised for the benefit of their children. If the adult negro population are sufficiently advanced in knowledge to appreciate the benefits of education for their children, and could be induced to ask it as a boon from the Government, they would of course regard the law in a much more favourable light than if it were forced upon them.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

— No. 153. —

(No. 374.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 28 August 1837.

No. 153.

I HAVE great pleasure in laying before your Lordship a Government notice, giving publicity to a letter from the proprietor of an estate in the district of Essequibo, showing from unquestionable facts the prosperous and flourishing state of that part of this important colony.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth*.

Enclosure in No. 153.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

THE Governor has directed that the following letter, addressed to his Excellency from the proprietor of plantation Aberdeen, shall be published in the Royal Gazette for general information. His Excellency has great pleasure in granting his sanction towards the formation of the town of Williamstown; an undertaking which the Governor sincerely hopes and believes will be found to answer every purpose that the spirited projector has in view in planning so useful an establishment.

Encl. in No. 153.

Guiana Public Buildings,
22 August 1837.

By command,
(signed) *H. E. F. Young*,
Government Secretary.

Sir,

Plantation Aberdeen, Essequibo,
2 August 1837.

By the erection of several dwelling-houses, and by letting small portions of land on leases for 21 years, I have established a town in front of this estate

A mercantile store was opened here some years ago under my protection and support: this store now sells goods to the extent of 10,000*l.* per annum, with increasing business.

I have made a grant of two acres of land to the Lord Bishop of the diocese and his successors, for a church establishment, gratis.

The church is already contracted for at *f.*25,000, for little more than the bare walls and roof; I contribute *f.*700 and much local assistance to it; and my labourers, by my advice and influence, subscribe upwards of *f.*400, with a cheerful promise of future and continued pecuniary assistance in support of church and schoolhouse.

This town, which will soon contain property to the amount of several thousand pounds, is in the most central part of Essequibo, abundantly supplied with the best fresh water, and in juxtaposition with the military post Capoey, to which, in many points of view, it will afford most important advantages.

The buildings erected, and the large shipping stelling in front of the town, have cost me considerable sums of money.

I beg your Excellency's sanction to this undertaking, most respectfully solicit your permission that said town may, in honour of our late most gracious Sovereign, be called Williamstown, and that you will be pleased to issue an official order accordingly.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Thomas Bell*, M. D.
Proprietor of Plantation Aberdeen, Essequibo.

To his Excellency Major-general Sir *J. Carmichael Smyth*,
Bart. &c. &c. &c.,
Governor and Commander-in-chief of British Guiana.

— No. 154. —

(No. 264.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart.

No. 154.

Sir,

Downing-street, 28 October 1837.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch (No. 374) of the 28th of August, enclosing a Government notice giving publicity to a letter addressed to you by a proprietor of an estate in the district of Essequibo.

I read this document with sincere pleasure, as an additional proof of the flourishing condition of the colony.

It was due to the benevolent owner of the estate, that the success which has attended his spirited undertaking should be generally known throughout the colony, as an incentive to others to conduce, by a wise application of their means and opportunities, to the general welfare of the community.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

— No. 155. —

(No. 377.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 155.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 8 September 1837.

I BEG to solicit your Lordship's attention to the accompanying official reports from the high sheriff and from the sheriff of Berbice. Your Lordship will perceive that at the last monthly sessions of the inferior criminal court held in those districts, there was not a single prisoner for trial. I beg further to draw your Lordship's observation to the reflections upon the subject contained in the report from the high sheriff.

I have already had the honour to communicate to your Lordship, that during the month of July it was only necessary to have recourse to the lash in the cases of two apprenticed labourers.

I beg respectfully to offer my congratulations to your Lordship upon these irrefragable proofs of the happiness, tranquillity and good conduct of the apprenticed labourers in British Guiana.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth*.

Enclosure 1, in No. 155.

(No. 189.)

Mary's Hope, Courantyne Coast,
22 August 1837.

Encl. 1, in No. 155.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that I had not a case for trial at the session of the inferior criminal court held on this plantation yesterday.

I have, &c.

To the Honourable H. E. F. Young,
Government Secretary.(signed) *Charles R. Whinfield*,
Sheriff of Berbice.

(True copy.)

(signed) *H. E. F. Young*, Government Secretary.

Enclosure 2, in No. 155.

Encl. 2, in No. 155.

Sir,

High Sheriff's Office, 7 September 1837.

HAVING this day transmitted, through the usual channel, a return of cases tried at the monthly sessions of an inferior criminal court of justice, held on the 5th instant in Georgetown, to be laid before your Excellency, I cannot allow the occasion to pass without expressing

expressing the high gratification I feel, and in which feeling I am conscious your Excellency will entirely coincide, at its having proved a maiden sessions. Two cases only were called for trial. Combining with this fact, the gradual and progressive decrease, for several months back, in the number of cases brought for trial before the monthly sessions of the inferior criminal courts in the district of Demerara, I feel justified in drawing the most favourable conclusion of the rapidly improving state of society, especially as refers to the middle and lower classes, and of the admirable working, under your Excellency's government, of the great experiment now going on.

BRITISH GUIANA.

To his Excellency
Sir J. Carmichael Smyth, Governor,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) Geo. Bagot.
High Sheriff.

(True copy.)

H. E. F. Young, Government Secretary.

— No. 156. —

(No. 273.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *C. J. Smyth*, Bart.

Sir,

Downing Street, 25 November 1837.

No. 156.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your despatch (No. 377) of the 8th of September, with the accompanying official reports from the high sheriff of Guiana, and from the sheriff of Berbice.

The information contained in this despatch and its enclosures is a very welcome addition to the proofs previously in my possession, of the success with which your labours for the general good of the important colony under your government have been rewarded.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Glenelg*.

— No. 157. —

(No. 252.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart.

Sir,

Downing Street, 25 September 1837.

No. 157.

I HAVE received your despatch (No. 295) of the 1st of April, enclosing the epitome of the reports of the stipendiary magistrates for February, and proposing, in consideration of the uniform and satisfactory tenor of these communications for several months past, to discontinue the transmission of them in future.

vide Papers relative to the Abolition of Slavery, 1837, part 4 (1), p. 565.

I agree with you as to the needlessness of so frequent a repetition of the same details. I should, however, be unwilling to forego the satisfaction of laying before Parliament, from time to time, testimony so ample and so conclusive of the prosperous working of the apprenticeship within your government, and the prosperous termination to which it promises to lead. I would therefore propose, that instead of discontinuing the transmission altogether, you would furnish me with a similar report every half-year instead of every month.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Glenelg*.

— No. 158. —

(No. 385.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 16 October 1837.

No. 158.

I HAVE great pleasure in laying before your Lordship the accompanying tables of returns, showing the number of marriages, of communicants at the Holy Sacrament, of persons receiving instruction at schools, of convictions before

BRITISH GUIANA.

the supreme criminal courts, of convictions before the inferior criminal courts, of the shipping, tonnage and seamen, of the number of artificers and labourers who have emigrated into Guiana, of the quantity of colonial produce exported, of the value of goods imported, and of the balance in hand in the colonial chest, accruing from the revenue of the quarter ending on the 30th of last month.

I beg respectfully to offer my congratulations to your Lordship upon the flourishing state of this improving colony. The religious and moral feelings so happily prevailing may be judged of by the number of marriages, of communicants at the Sacrament, by the number of adults and of children attending schools, and by the paucity of convictions before the criminal courts. The industry of the labouring class may be appreciated by the quantity of produce manufactured and exported, and their happiness and improved condition cannot be tested by a better proof than by the quantity of goods imported, and which are principally for their use. The transition from the dejected and almost naked slave to the cheerful and decently-clad labourer, which has taken place in Guiana, can only be believed by those who having been in this colony some few years ago have again had occasion lately to revisit it.

In the next quarterly returns I propose to add the number of convictions of apprenticed labourers before special justices, as also the number and nature of complaints preferred by apprenticed labourers against their managers or overseers, together with the decision of the justices thereon. These documents, added to those as at present submitted, will put your Lordship in possession, in a condensed shape, of the fullest information respecting this colony. I have had for some time the idea of forwarding returns of the nature I have described, but have not been able exactly, until lately, to hit upon a form of return which would afford the information required in a condensed shape. The epitomes which I formerly had the honour to transmit were necessarily too bulky, from being so much in detail.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth.*

Enclosure in No. 158.

Encl. in No. 158.

THE following Quarterly Returns are published for general information.

By order of his Excellency the Governor,

H. E. F. Young, Government Secretary.

Guiana Public Buildings, 14 October 1837.

(A.)

RETURN of Marriages in *British Guiana*, during the Quarter ending 30 September 1837.

1.	Marriages by special license	-	-	-	-	-	-	22
2.	Ditto - by publications of banns	-	-	-	-	-	-	289
TOTAL								311

(B.)

RETURN of Communicants at the Holy Sacrament in *British Guiana*, during the Quarter ending 30 September 1837.

* 2	1. Church of England	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,278
3	2. Church of Scotland	-	-	-	-	-	-	230
1	3. Reformed Church of Holland	-	-	-	-	-	-	—
	4. Lutheran Church	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
2	5. Roman Catholic Church	-	-	-	-	-	-	—
	6. Church Missionary Society	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
	7. Wesleyan Missionaries	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,415
1	8. London Missionary Society	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,854
1	9. Moravian Missionaries	-	-	-	-	-	-	—
TOTAL								5,809

* These figures denote the number of Returns deficient.

RETURN

(C.)

RETURN of Persons receiving Instruction in Schools in *British Guiana*, during the Quarter ending 30 September.

	Average No. Adults.	Ditto, Children.	Total.
1. Sunday Schools - - -	3,956	4,394	8,350
2. Day Schools - - -	258	3,006	3,264
3. Evening Schools - - -	2,148	315	2,463
TOTAL - - -	6,362	7,715	14,077

(D.)

RETURN of Convictions before the Supreme Criminal Courts in *British Guiana*, during the Quarter ending 30 September.

	Males.	Females.
1. In the District of Demerara and Essequibo -	2	-
2. In the District of Berbice - - - -	-	-
TOTAL - - - -	2	-

(E.)

RETURN of Convictions before the Inferior Criminal Courts in *British Guiana*, during the Quarter ending 30 September.

	Males.	Female..
1. Demerara - - - - -	36	3
2. Essequibo - - - - -	9	1
3. Berbice - - - - -	8	-
TOTAL - - - - -	53	4

(F.)

RETURN of Shipping, Tonnage and Seamen entered the Ports of *British Guiana*, during the Quarter ending 30 September.

	No. Vessels.	Tons.	Seamen.
1. Demerara and Essequibo - - -	122	20,171	1,190
2. Berbice - - - - -	29	4,648	279
TOTAL - - - - -	151	24,819	1,469

(G.)

RETURN of Labourers and Artificers imported into *British Guiana*, during the Quarter ending 30 September.

	Males.	Females.
1. Demerara - - - - -	416	238
2. Berbice - - - - -	14	-
TOTAL - - - - -	430	238

(H.)

RETURN of Colonial Produce shipped from the Ports of *British Guiana*, during the Quarter ending 30 September.

	SUGAR.			RUM.			MOLASSES.			COFFEE.	COTTON.
	Hhds.	Trcs.	Brls.	Puns.	Hhds.	Brls.	Hhds.	Trcs.	Brls.	Pounds.	Bales.
1. Demerara - - -	11,844	499	581	3,219	810	300	7,332	6	54	214,050	365
2. Berbice - - -	2,456	175	9	646	70	8	507	-	-	635,100	225
TOTAL - - -	14,300	674	590	3,859	880		7,839	6	54	840,150	590

(I.)

RETURN of the Value of Goods imported into *British Guiana*, during the Quarter ending 30 September.

	£.	s.	d.
1. Into the Port of Demerara - - - - -	179,344	19	5
2. Into the Port of Berbice - - - - -	35,092	10	7
TOTAL Sterling - - - - -	214,437	9	-

(K.)

RETURN of Balance in the Colonial Chests on 30 September 1837.

	£.	s.	d.
1. In the Chest of Georgetown - - - - -	31,008	4	3
2. New Amsterdam - - - - -	14,137	12	4
TOTAL Sterling - - - - -	45,145	16	7

Compiled from the Official Returns,

(signed) *H. E. F. Young*, Government Secretary.

--No. 159.--

(No. 289.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart.

No. 159.

Sir,

Downing-street, 12 January 1838.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch (No. 385) of the 16th of October last, transmitting a government notice containing quarterly return on the state of the colony, which you had published for general information.

I have perused these returns with interest and satisfaction ; they contain the most convincing evidence (if indeed, after the many reports which you had previously furnished on the same subject, such evidence were necessary), of the encreasing happiness and prosperity of the colony under your administration.

I appreciate the anxiety which you feel to place me in possession of information of this interesting nature, to which I attach great value, and which on all occasions I shall be happy to receive from you.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

—No. 160.—

(No. 411.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 160.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 18 November 1837.

Gaol in George Town.

Gaol in New Amsterdam.

Vide Papers relative to the Abolition of Slavery, 1837, part 4 (1), p. 20.

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Lordship the documents required by the circular of your Lordship of the 5th July 1837, relative to the gaols and prisons of this colony, and which I hope will prove satisfactory.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth*.

154.—II.

В В 3

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QUESTIONS.

1.—GENERAL description of the prison; whether common gaol, house of correction or otherwise? (To be accompanied by a ground plan of the buildings, &c.)

2.—Under whose jurisdiction and superintendence; and what measures are adopted for securing the visitation of the prison by the local magistrates or other authorities? (A copy of the rules and regulations to be forwarded with the return.)

3.—Number of officers, and how appointed? Do all the officers reside in the prison? Are female prisoners attended by female officers exclusively?

4.—Number of classes, divisions or wards, day-rooms, work-rooms and airing-yards (with reference to plan), and whether the same can be extended or increased?

5.—Number of sleeping cells, solitary or dark cells, &c.; and if any are below ground?

6.—Dietary or weekly allowance, and weekly cost per head, for the different descriptions of prisoners?

7.—Allowance of clothing and bedding, and cost per head?

8.—Hours of labour and exercise?

9.—Description of employment and hard labour?

10.—Amount of earnings, and how applied; in what proportion to the prisoners, to the officers, or to the fund for the maintenance of the prison?

11.—Whether the classification directed by the Colonial Act has been observed: if not, for what reasons; and what measures have been taken to remedy this defect?

12.—Are convicted prisoners prohibited from receiving visits or letters, or any articles of food or clothing from their relatives or friends; if not, under what restriction?

13.—Is there a chapel in the prison or suitable apartment for the performance of religious services? How are the prisoners separated therein?

14.—What duties are performed by the chaplain? What provision is made for the instruction of the prisoners, and are they supplied with Bibles and other suitable books?

15.—Are dissenting ministers allowed to have access to the prisoners: and if so, at what times, and under what restrictions?

16.—What duties are performed by the surgeon? Are separate buildings or apartments provided for the sick?

17.—What diseases have been most prevalent during the year (in reference to columns 10 and 11, return, No. 1)?

18.—Reasons for non-employment of prisoners (in reference to column 8)?

19.—Reasons for punishments, by whipping, irons, solitary confinement or otherwise?

20.—Is there any insane person in confinement? State his or her name and age, and for what offence committed? How long has he or she been in confinement, and is such person separated from the other prisoners?

21.—Are any and what fees demanded of debtors, or of any other prisoners, either at their admission to, or discharge from the gaol?

22.—General observations.

ANSWERS.

Common gaol and house of correction combined. (Ground plan subjoined-sub 1^a A.)

Under the superintendence of the judges of the supreme court, and of the high sheriff, who visit the gaols at uncertain periods. (Rules and regulations subjoined sub 1^a B.)

Two, viz., keeper and assistant keeper, who reside in the gaol: The keeper is appointed by his Excellency the Governor, and the assistant by the keeper. No female officers attend to the gaol.

One hundred and ten wards, three large work-rooms, one day-room and two yards which can be extended.

One hundred and ten wards or cells, 96 of them for solitary confinement. There are none dark or below ground.

See diet table attached to rules and regulations sub 1^a B. Weekly list per head for dieting varies from 3s. 6d. to 4s.

Working clothing supplied to penal gang as required; no specific allowance; blankets found as required.

For penal gang from six to eleven o'clock, A. M. and one to half-past five, P. M. Treadmill from ten to twelve, and two to four o'clock.

Weeding and cleaning the streets and trenches of town and garrison; the treadmill and breaking stones.

Eight hundred and twenty-five pounds applied to the fund for the maintenance of the prison.

Classification observed as far as the means of the prison admits, and will be completely observed when the new buildings in the gaol are completed.

Convicted prisoners are occasionally permitted to receive visits, letters and clothing, and, under peculiar circumstances, provisions also, on application to the high sheriff.

A suitable apartment has been fitted up, and is used for the performance of divine service. The males and females are separated by a railing.

Divine service is performed every Sunday morning by the chaplain of the Church of England persuasion, or his curate, and occasionally by the chaplain of the presbyterian persuasion. Bibles and Prayer-books are supplied to those who can read.

Dissenting ministers are permitted to have access to prisoners at any hours of daylight, on application to the high sheriff.

A separate building is provided as an hospital for the sick, and the surgeon visits every day, and oftener if necessary.

Bilious fever of the colony.

All prisoners under sentence of hard labour are employed, except when they are sick in the hospital, or convalescent.

No punishments for breach of prison discipline have taken place, except by solitary confinement and extra labour on the treadmill, or otherwise.

None.

No fees from debtors either at admission or discharge. A fee of 2s. 10³/₄ d. is demanded from persons not apprenticed labourers on discharge from gaol, towards the support of the gaol hospital.

The gaol is well ventilated, kept exceedingly clean, and the wards frequently white-washed, to which may be imputed its having escaped the malignant fever which prevailed in Georgetown during the months of May, June, July and August.

George Bugot, High Sheriff, British Guiana.

Enclosure 2, in No. 160.

RETURN of the GAOLS and HOUSES of CORRECTION, and of the Number of PRISONERS confined therein for the Year ending 30 September 1837.

[illegible]

1.—GENERAL description of the prison; whether common gaol, house of correction, or otherwise? (To be accompanied by a ground plan of the buildings, &c.)

2.—Under whose jurisdiction and superintendence; and what measures are adopted for securing the visitation of the prison by the local magistrates or other authorities? (A copy of the rules and regulations to be forwarded with the return.)

3.—Number of officers, and how appointed? Do all the officers reside in the prison? Are female prisoners attended by female officers exclusively?

4.—Number of classes, divisions or wards, day-rooms, work-rooms and airing-yards, (with reference to plan); and whether the same can be extended or increased?

5.—Number of sleeping-cells, solitary or dark cells, &c.; and if any are below ground?

6.—Dietary or weekly allowance, and weekly cost per head, for the different descriptions of prisoners?

7.—Allowance of clothing and bedding, and cost per head?

8.—Hours of labour and exercise?

9.—Description of employment and hard labour?

10.—Amount of earnings, and how applied; in what proportion to the prisoners, to the officers, or to the fund for the maintenance of the prison?

11.—Whether the classification directed by the Colonial Act has been observed: if not, for what reasons; and what measures have been taken to remedy this defect?

12.—Are convicted prisoners prohibited from receiving visits or letters, or any articles of food or clothing from their relatives or friends: if not, under what restrictions?

13.—Is there a chapel in the prison, or suitable apartment for the performance of religious services? How are the prisoners separated therein?

14.—What duties are performed by the chaplain? What provision is made for the instruction of the prisoners; and are they supplied with Bibles and other suitable books?

15.—Are dissenting ministers allowed to have access to the prisoners; and, if so, at what times, and under what restrictions?

16.—What duties are performed by the surgeon? Are separate buildings or apartments provided for the sick?

17.—What diseases have been most prevalent during the year (in reference to columns 10 and 11, return, No. 1)?

18.—Reasons for non-employment of prisoners (in reference to column 8)?

19.—Reasons for punishments, by whipping, irons, solitary confinement or otherwise?

Both common gaol and house of correction.

Under the jurisdiction of their honours the judges of the supreme court, and general superintendence of his honour the sheriff of the district.

Two, the keeper and a turnkey. There are no female officers attached to the prison.

Four classes, twenty-two wards or divisions, and two airing-yards, which can be extended or increased.

Six sleeping-rooms, and sixteen solitary cells.

Dietary or weekly allowance three and a half pounds of salt fish, eighty-four full grown plantains or other farinaceous food, and cost per head, per week about 2s. 2d.

Three changes per week, and cost about 3l. per head per annum.

From 6 to 11 A.M., and from 12 to 6 P.M.; hours of exercise, for such as are not at labour, from 6 to 7 A.M., and from 5 to 6 P.M.

Employed on public roads, or upon the treadmill.

No earnings of any description.

Classification strictly observed.

They are, excepting under special sanction in particular cases.

No, there is not.

No chaplain appointed; the rector of New Amsterdam, the Rev. T. R. Redwar, gives his gratuitous attendance to perform divine service every Sunday morning. No provision made for instruction; Bibles and other books are not supplied.

They have, on making application to his honour the sheriff.

The surgeon attends daily and whenever required. There is an hospital containing four wards.

Fever and dysentery, but very few cases have occurred.

No persons unemployed.

Breaches of gaol discipline.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

BRITISH GUIANA.

20.—Is there any insane prisoner in confinement? State his or her name and age, and for what offence committed? How long has he or she been in confinement; and is such person separated from the other prisoners?

No.

21.—Are any, and what fees demanded of debtors, or of any other prisoners, either at their admission to or discharge from the gaol?

None demanded.

22.—General observations.

V. Simonelli,

Keeper of H. M. Gaol, New Amsterdam,
District of Berbice.

REGULATIONS for Her Majesty's Gaol, *New Amsterdam, Berbice.*

1.—THE keeper of the gaol is required to reside on the gaol premises in the house provided for him; he is not to absent himself from duty without leave, nor is he allowed to sell or derive any benefit from the sale of articles to the prisoners, either directly or indirectly, nor is he to have an interest in any contract for the supply of the prison with provisions or otherwise.

2.—The keeper of the gaol is to keep a journal in which is to be entered all punishments inflicted by authority, together with the name of each prisoner, the date of commitment, and for what offence, the time of release, and the amount of fees received on account of each.

3.—The keeper of the gaol will make the following reports and returns, viz. a daily report of the gaol to his honour the puisne judge, and to his honour the sheriff; a weekly report to his Excellency the governor, and monthly reports to his honour the chief justice, and his honour the puisne judge residing in this district; a quarterly return for the honourable the court of policy, exhibiting the amount of fees and expenditures, each item of account being previously checked at the sheriff's office.

4.—The keeper of the gaol is held responsible for the safe custody of all prisoners, and it will be his duty to visit the several wards and cells at least once every day.

5.—The amended tariff of fees established by his Excellency the Lieutenant-governor and the honourable court of policy, under date 29 April 1834, for the police and gaols, to be conspicuously hung up in the gaol.

6.—The classification of prisoners, by the separation of males and females, to be strictly attended to.

7.—In order to secure cleanliness and health to the prisoners, they will all, solitary or otherwise, be taken out from six to seven o'clock in the morning, and from five to six o'clock in the afternoon, and be kept in the gaol-yard during that period under the superintendence of one of the police during these hours, the rooms and cells to be kept open and cleaned.

8.—The interior of the wards and cells to be whitewashed once a month, and oftener if necessary.

9.—Prisoners are not allowed the use of tobacco in any shape; and all gambling in the gaol is positively prohibited.

10.—Prisoners, with or without hard labour, are never to be employed as servants, either for cooking or any other purpose.

11.—Convicted prisoners not to be permitted to receive letters or visits from their friends, unless under peculiar and pressing circumstances.

12.—All prisoners to be locked up at sun-set, and no lights to be allowed excepting when in hospital, and then not later than eight o'clock, or at the discretion of the surgeon.

13.—The surgeon, appointed by his Excellency the Governor, will attend the gaol daily, and upon any occasion it may be necessary to send for him; and he is requested to keep a diary of all patients.

14.—All sick prisoners upon the report of the surgeon to be immediately removed to the hospital.

15.—No liquor of any quality whatsoever to be introduced into the gaol, excepting such as the surgeon may think necessary for a patient.

16.—All the prisoners will be assembled in the common gaol-room at seven o'clock every Sunday morning for divine service.

17.—Irons or fetters are not permitted, except for security of prisoners in special cases, and then only under orders of the sheriff.

18.—The allowance of food for all prisoners is half a pound of salt fish, and 12 full grown plantains daily, excepting to those in solitary confinement, who will be allowed the plantains only; no other provisions will be permitted, unless the surgeon may see fit to order any particular diet for a patient in hospital.

(True copy.)

(signed)

Charles R. Whinfield, Sheriff.

BRITISH GUIANA.

—No. 161.—

(No. 2.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 161.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 2 January 1838.

WITH reference to the third paragraph of the despatch of the 16th October (No. 385), which I had the honour to address to your Lordship, I beg to lay before your Lordship the accompanying returns for the month of November, made up from the reports of the special justices and from the proceedings of the inferior criminal courts, as forwarded by the sheriffs of the several districts. I have deemed it my duty to cause publicity to be given to these documents, affording as they do such satisfactory and unquestionable evidence of the state of tranquillity and happiness enjoyed by the great mass of the labouring population of this province.

I propose doing myself the honour of transmitting to your Lordship similar monthly tables in future.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth*.

Enclosure in No. 161.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

Encl. in No. 161. THE Governor has directed in future the following returns shall be published in the Royal Gazette, as early in each month as the receipt of the documents from which they are severally compiled from the respective sheriffs and special justices, will permit:—

- (A.)—Table, exhibiting the number and nature of punishments upon apprenticed labourers in each district, together with a summary of the sentences awarded by apprenticed labourers.
- (B.)—Table exhibiting the number and nature of complaints, preferred by apprenticed labourers or articed servants, together with a *précis* of the decision of the special justice.
- (C.)—Table, exhibiting an epitome of all cases brought before the monthly inferior criminal courts, together with the result of the proceedings in each case.

The returns now published are for the month of November.

By command of his Excellency the Governor,

H. E. F. Young,
Government Secretary.

TABLE (A.)

EXHIBITING the Number and Effect of the RETURNS of PUNISHMENTS received by the Governor from the Special Magistrates, from the last day of the Month of October to the first day of the Month of December 1837.

Name of Special Magistrate.	District.	Total Number of Apprentices comprised in this District.		Total number of Punishments inflicted.	Total Number of Males Punished.		Total Number of Females Punished.	Average Number of Stripes in the punishments by Whipping.	Maximum number of Stripes in any one case of Punishment by Whipping.	Maximum of Severity in any one case of Punishment by imprisonment.	Maximum of Severity in any other Mode of Punishment.
		Males.	Females.		By Whipping.	Otherwise than by Whipping.					
C. H. Strutt -	(A.) Lower Div.	1728	1617	18	-	12	6	-	-	7 days -	-- 3 months' hard labour in the penal gang in Georgetown.
Thomas Coleman	(A.) Upper Div.	1470	1340	27	-	11	16	-	-	2 months	-- 5 weeks' extra labour on the estate.
A. M. Lyons -	(B.) - -	2932	2739	24	-	15	9	-	-	-	-- 1 month's hard labour in the colony gaol.
George Ross -	(C.) Town Div.	3380	3480	5	-	5	-	-	-	3 weeks -	3 weeks' hard labour.
Austin Carroll -	(C.) Town Div.	3380	3480	12	-	11	1	-	-	2 weeks -	2 weeks' hard labour.
J. A. Allen -	(C.) Upper Div.	2380	2153	37	-	22	15	-	-	21 nights	2 months' hard labour.
D. McLennan -	(D.) - -	3188	2597	22	-	10	12	-	-	2 months	2 weeks' extra labour.
Thomas Delafons	(E.) - -	2831	2637	93	2	38	53	39	39	3 months	3 months' extra labour.
George Kellock -	(F.) - -	4456	4346	1	-	1	-	-	-	1 month.	
George Ball -	(G.) - -	1850	1400	14	-	10	4	-	-	14 days -	-- 1 month's hard labour on the treadmill.
W. J. Brittain -	(H.) Lower Div.	1800	1560	5	-	5	-	-	-	2 months	-- 2 months' hard labour in the colony gaol.
J. O. L. Mure -	(H.) Upper Div.	1480	1370	4	-	3	1	-	-	1 month -	10 weeks' extra labour.
George Rose -	(I.) - -	1071	928	6	-	5	1	-	-	1 week -	2 weeks' extra labour.
W. H. Ware -	(K.) - -	5995	-	37	-	22	51	-	-	2 months.	
A. Van R. de Groot.	(L.) - -	1594	1429	38	-	16	22	-	-	2 months	-- 2 months' hard labour on the treadmill.
K. Heyland -	(M.) - -	1909	1666	22	-	10	12	-	-	3 months	1 month's extra labour.

TABLE (B.)

GENERAL RETURN of COMPLAINTS preferred by APPRENTICED LABOURERS, or ARTICLED SERVANTS, during the Month of November 1837.

DISTRICT.	Special Justice.	From what Estate.	For Assault, or Illegal Confinement.	Relative to Food.	Relative to Clothing.	Relative to Lodging.	Relative to Hospital Treatment, or Treatment under Sickness out of Hospital.	Relative to Work, Quantity or Description.	Relative to Wages for Extra Work.	Relative to Treatment when Pregnant or Nursing.	Relative to the Destruction of Pigs or other Personal Property.	Relative to Terms of Indenture.	Total Number of Complaints.	Pronounced Frivolous or Unfounded. *Anicably Settled or Compromised.	Complaints followed to Conviction.	Maximum of Punishment awarded for Ill-treatment of Apprenticed Labourer or Articled Servant.
(A.) Upper Section	Thomas Coleman	Strathavin	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1		
"	"	Farm	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1		
"	"	Bushy Park	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1		
"	"	Supply	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	3	3		
(A.) Lower Section	C. H. Strutt	Greenfield	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1		
"	"	Ann's Grove	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1*		
"	"	Beehive	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1*		
"	"	John and Cove	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	2*		
"	"	Baillie's Hope	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1*		
"	"	Paradise	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	2*		
"	"	Bachelor's Adventure	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1		
(B.) - -	A. M. Lyons	Lusignan	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1*		
"	"	Goedverwagten	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	
"	"	Vryheid's Lust	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1		
"	"	Felicity	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	
"	"	Cuming's Lodge	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	52.
"	"	Triumph	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	
"	"	Annandale	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1		
"	"	New Orange Nassau	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	
(C.) - -	J. A. Allen	Articled servant	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1		
"	"	La Penitence	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	5*		
"	"	Ruimveld	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3*		
"	"	Rome and Houston	-	1	4	1	1	1	6	-	-	-	13	13*		
"	"	Velzerhoofd	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1*		
"	"	Peter's Hall	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	2*		
"	"	Farm	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	3	-	-	6	6*		
"	"	Little Diamond	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3*		
"	"	Great Diamond	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2*		
"	"	Golden Grove	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1*		
"	"	Friendship	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1*		
"	"	Garden of Eden	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1*		
"	"	Sage Pond	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	2*		
"	"	Prosperity	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	2*		
"	"	Arcadia	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1*		
"	"	Profit	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1*		
"	"	Werk-en-Rust	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1*		

TABLE (B.)—GENERAL RETURN of COMPLAINTS preferred by APPRENTICED LABOURERS, &c.—*continued.*

DISTRICT.	Special Justice.	From what Estate.	For Assault or Illegal Confinement.	Relative to Food.	Relative to Clothing.	Relative to Lodging.	Relative to Hospital Treatment, or Treatment under Sickness out of Hospital.	Relative to Work, Quantity or Description.	Relative to Wages for Extra Work.	Relative to Treatment when Pregnant or Nursing.	Relative to the Destruction of Pigs or other Personal Property.	Relative to Terms of Indenture.	Total Number of Complaints.	Pronounced Frivolous or Unfounded. *Amicably Settled or Compromised.	Complaints followed to Conviction.	Maximum of Punishment awarded for Ill-treatment of Apprenticed Labourer or Articled Servant.
(D.) - - -	D. M'Lennan -	Vriedesten -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
(E.) - - -	Thomas Delafons -	Met-en-Meerzorg -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	reprimanded.
		Vrees-en-Hoop -	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-
(F.) - " -	"	Elizabeth Ann -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	finned 30 guilders.
(G.) - - -	George Kellock -	Good Intent -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
	George Ball -	Huis t'Dieren -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	-	-
"	"	Hamburg -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-
"	"	Sophinberg -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	-
"	"	Perseverance -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-
"	"	The Rectory -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	-
(H.) Upper Section	J. O. L. Mure -	Affiance -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
(H.) Lower Section	W. J. Brittain -	La Belle Alliance -	-	-	-	Svrl.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(I.) - - -	George Rose -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(K.) - - -	W. H. Ware -	Balthyock -	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3	- - fined double the value of the food withheld.
"	"	Philadelphia -	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	5	2	3	- - a fine of 5 l. to each.
"	"	Overwinning -	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
"	"	New Forest -	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	- - work ordered to be reduced.
"	"	Friends -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	finned 2 l.
"	"	Blairmont -	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	- - work ordered to be reduced.
(L.) - - -	A. Van. R. de Groot -	Zuidwyk -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
"	"	- idem -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
"	"	- idem -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
"	"	De Liefde -	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	- - fined 2 l. on first charge; second satisfactorily arranged.
(M.) - " -	K. Heyland -	Herstelling -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
"	"	Prospect -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	finned 1 l. 10 s.
"	"	Hampshire -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Town District	George Ross -	Articled Servants -	2	3	1	1	-	-	1	-	6	1	15	8	5	- - two referred to inferior criminal court.
"	Austin Carroll -	Non-Prædials -	2	2	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	10	10	-	-
			35	18	9	13	18	8	6	11	7	4	129	102	25	

TABLE (C.)

EXHIBITING an EPILOGUE of all Cases brought before the Monthly Inferior Criminal Courts, together with the Result of the Proceedings in each Case.

No.	Name of Accused.	Station in Life.	Offence charged with.	Result of Trial.
1	Easter - -	apprenticed labourer	assault - - - - -	- - 10 days' imprisonment with hard labour, and solitary confinement when not at work.
2	Harry - -	- idem - - -	theft - - - - -	2 months' ditto ditto, to receive 39 lashes.
3	Graham - -	- idem - - -	assault - - - - -	acquitted.
4	Thomas Bagear -	sailor - - -	idem - - - - -	- idem.
5	Goodluck King -	carpenter - -	- - employing and harbouring another's apprentice.	- - fined 5 l.; imprisonment until paid, not exceeding one month.
6	Alick - -	apprenticed labourer	- - breaking down and stealing the materials of a building of the value of 10 l.	- - 1 month imprisonment with hard labour, in the colony gaol.
7	Sam Richardson -	constable - -	assault - - - - -	acquitted; prosecutor not appearing.
8	James - -	apprenticed labourer	burglary and theft - - - - -	- - 1 month imprisonment with hard labour, in the colony gaol.
9	Scipio - -	- idem - - -	- - selling spirits to a private of the 69th regiment, having no license.	- - fined 220 guilders, with one month imprisonment and hard labour, in the colony gaol.
10	John Ben - -	- idem - - -	stealing and killing a cow - - - - -	- - 6 weeks' imprisonment with hard labour, in the colony gaol.
11	John Philip He-rault.	- - - - -	- - defrauding an apprenticed labourer of 600 guilders.	- - fined 20 l., three months' imprisonment with hard labour, and to receive 39 lashes.
12	Quaco - -	apprenticed labourer	theft - - - - -	- - 2 months' imprisonment with hard labour, and to receive 39 lashes.
13	John Quin - -	indentured labourer	{ - - absenting themselves from employers' service, and attempting to quit the colony without a pass - - - - - }	6 weeks' imprisonment with hard labour.
14	Samuel Wickstead	- idem - - -		

(No. 548.)

— No. 162. —

BRITISH GUIANA.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 9 January 1838.

No. 162.

I TAKE the liberty of laying before your Lordship a table showing the number of punishments by the lash, inflicted in this colony from the 1st August 1834 up to the end of the year 1837. This document I feel convinced your Lordship will examine with considerable interest, proving as it does the gradual decrease of human suffering, and the all but total extinction of punishment of so revolting and degrading a nature. I was induced to cause this return to be prepared from having observed in the public papers that it has been asserted at various public meetings that the condition of the apprenticed labourer is not essentially better than that of the former slave. The apprenticed labourer is, at any rate in British Guiana, in the full possession of every right conferred upon him by the Act for the Abolition of Slavery, and is perfectly aware that no punishment, however trivial, can be inflicted upon him without a previous careful investigation into his alleged misconduct, and without his being afforded every facility to defend himself. It is upon this conviction of their personal security; upon this feeling of the protection afforded to them by the law (so long as its enactments are complied with) now so generally entertained by the apprenticed labourers, that I rely with confidence for the continuance of the good order and tranquillity of this province throughout all ulterior changes. I can faithfully assure your Lordship, that, when I reflect upon what has been done within so short a space of time; when I contrast the present state of the labourer, not only with what was his condition as a slave, but with the earlier days of his emancipation, previously to the present system being brought into full operation; when I call to mind all the prophecies as to the ruin which it was asserted could not but ensue to the planter from the assumption by the Governor of the power of pardoning a labourer, and of mischievously interfering (as it was termed) with the authority of the magistrates; when I witness the good effects of that interference, in the decrease of punishment, and, above all, in the progressive removal of that prejudice which deemed these punishments necessary,—I feel no small degree of satisfaction at having been an humble instrument employed in the effecting of so much good. In a country where, at so recent a period, the whip was so readily resorted to, and so indiscriminately employed, whether to repress crime, to correct error, or to stimulate industry, I can now lay down my head upon my pillow with the happy assurance that throughout the whole extent of this colony not a single lash is given which ought to be withheld. Judging from what has been done, and reflecting upon the immense changes, both in opinion as well as in practice, which have been brought about in so short a period, I am induced to look forward to the still greater alterations which the constitution of the society in this province will have to undergo in August 1840, without any very great degree of apprehension.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth*.

Enclosure in No. 162.

RETURN of FLOGGINGS inflicted upon APPRENTICED LABOURERS from the 1st August 1834 to the end of the year 1837; showing the gradual decrease and almost total extinction of punishment of so revolting and degrading a nature in the province of British Guiana.

PERIOD.	By Sentence of Supreme Criminal Court.	By Sentence of Inferior Criminal Court.	By Sentence of Special Justices.	REMARKS.
1834:—From 1 August to 30 September	- nil -	102		The power of inflicting punishment upon apprenticed labourers was taken from proprietors and managers on the 1st March 1834, and was transferred, by ordinance 41, to a certain number of gentlemen in the colony who were appointed justices of the peace. The ordinance enjoined, that there should be not less than 45 justices, viz., in the proportion of three for each parish; these colonial justices were, however, subsequently deprived of all authority over apprenticed labourers, by his late Majesty's order, promulgated in this colony on the 8th August 1835, from which date the apprenticed labourers have been solely under the jurisdiction of 15 special justices appointed from home.
1835:—From 1 January to 31 March -	- nil -	60		
" 1 April to 30 June -	- - -	85		
" 1 July to 30 September -	- - -	48	167	
" 1 October to 31 December	- - -	26	153	
1836:—From 1 January to 31 March -	- - -	42	127	
" 1 April to 30 June -	- - -	46	84	
" 1 July to 30 September -	1	29	140	
" 1 October to 31 December	1	27	71	
1837:—From 1 January to 31 March -	- nil -	15	21	
" 1 April to 30 June -	- - -	28	6	
" 1 July to 30 September -	2	8	10	
" 1 October to 31 December	2	8	3	

Certified,

H. E. F. Young, Govt Secy, British Guiana.

— No. 163. —

(No. 6.)

No. 163.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 13 January 1838.

WITH reference to your Lordship's circular of the 1st December, calling for returns of all the children of apprenticed labourers who may have been apprenticed under the provision of the Abolition Law, I have the honour to report to your Lordship that not one single child has been apprenticed in this colony.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth*.

— No. 164. —

(No. 11.)

No. 164.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 19 January 1838.

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Lordship the quarterly returns, similar to those which I have, for some time past, been in the habit of periodically transmitting for your perusal. I have only to offer, most respectfully, my congratulations to your Lordship at the continued prosperity of this most valuable province.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth*.

Enclosure in No. 164.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

Encl. in No. 164.

THE following quarterly returns are published for general information.

By command of his Excellency,

H. E. F. Young, Government Secretary.

Guiana Public Buildings, 16 January 1838.

(A.)

RETURN of Marriages in *British Guiana* during the Quarter ending 31 December 1837.

1. Marriages by special license - - - - -	20
2. Publication of banns - - - - -	464
TOTAL - - - - -	484

(B.)

RETURN of Communicants at the Holy Sacrament during the Quarter ending 31 December 1837.

1. Church of England - - - - -	3,104
2. Church of Scotland - - - - -	752
3. Reformed Church of Holland - - - - -	—
4. Lutheran Church - - - - -	10
5. Roman Catholic Church - - - - -	235
6. Church Missionary Society - - - - -	20
7. Wesleyan Missionary Society - - - - -	978
8. London Missionary Society - - - - -	1,712
9. Moravian Missionary Society - - - - -	—
TOTAL - - - - -	6,811

(C.)

RETURN of Persons receiving Instruction in Schools in *British Guiana*, during the Quarter ending 31 December 1837.

	Average No. Adults.	Ditto, Children.	Total.
1. Sunday Schools - - - - -	4,425	5,253	9,678
2. Day Schools - - - - -	51	3,433	3,484
3. Evening Schools - - - - -	2,051	837	2,888
TOTAL - - - - -	6,527	9,523	16,050

(D.)

SLAVERY IN THE BRITISH COLONIES.

2c7

BRITISH GUIANA.

(D.)

RETURN of Convictions before the Supreme Criminal Court during the Quarter ending
31 December 1837.

	Males.	Females.
1. In the District of Demerara and Essequibo -	4	-
2. In the District of Berbice - - - -	2	-
TOTAL - - - -	6	-

(E.)

RETURN of Convictions before the Inferior Criminal Courts during the Quarter ending
31 December 1837.

	Males.	Females.
1. Demerara - - - - -	18	1
2. Essequibo - - - - -	15	1
3. Berbice - - - - -	3	-
TOTAL - - - - -	36	2

(F.)

RETURN of Shipping, Tonnage and Seamen entered the Ports of *British Guiana* during
the Quarter ending 31 December 1837.

	No. of Vessels.	Tons.	Seamen.
1. Demerara and Essequibo - -	149	27,486	1,543
2. Berbice - - - - -	37	5,835	339
TOTAL - - - - -	186	33,321	1,882

(G.)

RETURN of Labourers and Artificers arrived in *British Guiana* during the Quarter
ending 31 December 1837.

	Males.	Females.
1. Demerara - - - - -	333	169
2. Berbice - - - - -	59	17
TOTAL - - - - -	392	186

(H.)

RETURN of Colonial Produce shipped from the Ports of *British Guiana* during the
Quarter ending 31 December 1837.

	SUGAR.			RUM.			MOLASSES.			COFFEE.	COTTON.
	Hhds.	Trcs.	Brls.	Puns.	Hhds.	Brls.	Hhds.	Trcs.	Brls.	Pounds.	Bales.
1. Demerara - -	14,908	922	965	2,901	1,103	357	9,645	-	100	47,250	256
2. Berbice - -	3,694	199	166	1,237	116	21	1,716	-	-	234,000	24
TOTAL - -	18,602	1,121	1,131	4,138	1,219	378	11,361	-	100	281,250	280

(I.)

RETURN of the Value of Goods imported into *British Guiana* during the Quarter
ending 31 December 1837.

	£.	s.	d.
1. Into the Port of Demerara - - - - -	203,118	14	9
2. Into the Port of Berbice - - - - -	26,058	1	1
TOTAL - - - - -	229,176	15	10

(K.)

RETURN of Balance in the Colonial Chests on 31 December 1837.

	£.	s.	d.
1. In the Chest at Georgetown - - - - -	37,548	8	5
2. In the Chest at New Amsterdam - - - - -	14,015	13	1½
TOTAL - - - - -	51,564	1	6½

Compiled from the Official Returns,
H. E. F. Young, Government Secretary.

(No. 9.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 165.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 19 January 1838.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 16th October (No. 385), I beg to lay before your Lordship the enclosed document, which, showing as it does, upon one sheet of paper, an epitome of the proceedings of each special justice during the preceding month; an abstract of the complaints of labourers and articted servants against their employers, and a precis of all cases adjudicated by the inferior criminal courts during the same period, will enable your Lordship, without much trouble, to form a pretty accurate state of the tranquillity and internal state of this prosperous and important colony.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth*.

Enclosure in No. 165.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

Encl. in No. 165. IN pursuance of the Government Notice of the 30th December last, the following Returns for the month of December are published for general information.

Guiana Public Buildings, 16 January 1838.

By his Excellency's command,

H. E. F. Young,
Government Secretary.

TABLE (A.)

EXHIBITING the NUMBER and EFFECT of the RETURNS of PUNISHMENTS received by the Governor from the Special Magistrates.

DISTRICT.	Name of Special Magistrate.	Total Number of Apprentices comprised in this District.		Total Number of Punishments inflicted.	Total Number of Males punished.		Total Number of Females punished.	Average Number of Stripes in the Punishments by Whipping.	Maximum Number of Stripes in any one Case of Punishment by Whipping.	Maximum of Severity in any one Case of Punishment by Confinement.	Maximum of Severity in any other Mode of Punishment.
		Males.	Females.		By Whipping.	Otherwise than by Whipping.					
(A.) Upper Div.	Thos. Coleman	1,470	1,340	21	-	16	5	-	-	1 month - - -	-- 3 months' extra labour on the estate.
(A.) Lower Div.	C. H. Strutt	1,728	1,617	24	-	14	10	-	-	10 days - - -	-- 3 months' hard labour in the penal gang in Georgetown.
(B.) - -	A. M. Lyons	2,932	2,739	35	-	13	22	-	-	1 month - - -	2 weeks' extra labour.
(C.) Town Div.	George Ross	3,370	3,465	6	-	6	-	-	-	2 weeks - - -	2 weeks' hard labour.
(C.) Upper Div.	Geo. Ross, for J. A. Allen.	2,320	2,150	43	-	17	26	-	-	3 weeks - - -	3 months' extra labour.
(C.) Town Div.	Austin Carroll	3,370	3,465	21	-	18	3	-	-	3 weeks - - -	-- 3 weeks' hard labour in the penal gang.
(D.) - -	D. McLennan	3,186	2,595	10	-	6	4	-	-	1 week - - -	8 days' extra labour.
(E.) - -	Thos. Delafons	2,831	2,637	69	-	38	31	-	-	- - solitary confinement 21 days; locked up at nights for one month.	-- hard labour in the colony prison 2 months; extra labour 2 ½ hours a day for 10 days.
(F.) - -	George Kellock	4,456	4,346	2	-	2	-	-	-	- - confined at night and on Sundays during one month.	- - extra labour, with confinement, for two months.
(G.) - -	George Ball	1,850	1,400	13	-	9	4	-	-	- - 3 months at treadmill; solitary confinement for 14 days.	- - extra labour, at the rate of an hour and a half per day, for 20 working days.
(H.) Upper Div.	J. O. L. Mare	1,435	1,350	15	-	8	7	-	-	- - solitary confinement for two weeks, and in the stocks for 10 hours on 6 days.	- - extra labour, at the rate of an hour and a half per day, for 20 working days.
(H.) Lower Div.	W. J. Br'ttain	1,800	1,560	-	No Return received.						
(I.) - -	George Rose	1,070	926	5	-	-	5	-	-	1 week.	
(K.) - -	W. H. Ware	2,558	2,424	26	-	18	8	-	-	2 months - - -	5 days' extra labour.
(L.) - -	A. Van R. de Groot.	1,594	1,429	22	-	10	12	-	-	1 month - - -	1 month's hard labour.
(M.) - -	K. Heyland	1,909	1,666	6	-	3	3	-	-	3 months.	

TABLE (B.)

GENERAL RETURN of COMPLAINTS preferred by APPRENTICED LABOURERS or ARTICLED SERVANTS.

DISTRICT.	Special Justice.	From what Estate.	For Assault or Illegal Confinement.	Relative to Food.	Relative to Clothing.	Relative to Lodging.	Relative to Hospital Treatment, or Treatment under Sickness out of Hospital.	Relative to Work, Quantity or Description.	Relative to Wages for Extra Work.	Relative to Treatment when Pregnant or Nursing.	Relative to the Destruction of Pigs or other Personal Property.	Relative to Terms of Indenture.	Total Number of Complaints.	Pronounced Frivolous or Unfounded. *Amicably Settled or Compromised.	Complaints followed to Conviction.	Maximum of Punishment Awarded for Ill-treatment of Apprenticed Labourer or Articled Servant.
(A.) Upper Section	Thomas Coleman	Belmont - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1		
(A.) Lower Section	C. H. Strutt	Mes Delices - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1		
"	"	Chapman's Grove - - -	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1*		
"	"	Ann's Grove - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1*		
"	"	Baillie's Hope - - -	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2*		
"	"	John and Cove - - -	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	2*		
"	"	Paradise - - -	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	2*		
(B.) - " -	A. M. Lyons	Vryheid's Lust - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	fin'd 2 l. sterling.
"	"	Annandale - - -	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	5	4	1	- work reduced, being non-effective.
"	"	Brothers - - -	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1		
"	"	Beterverwagten - - -	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4		
(C.) - " -	J. A. Allen	La Penitence - - -	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1*	1	fin'd 2 l. sterling.
Town Section	George Ross	A. Ls. of individuals - - -	2	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3		
"	"	Art. Ls. and Workmen - - -	2	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	5	2*	3	fin'd f. 44.
"	Austin Carroll	Non-prædial A. Ls. - - -	2	2	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	6	1	- idem.
(D.) - " -	D. MacLennan	Hyde Park - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1		
(E.) - " -	Thomas Delafons	" - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
(F.) - " -	George Kellock	" - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
(G.) - " -	George Ball	Hoff Van Aurich - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1		
"	"	Vilvoorden - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1		
"	"	Zorg - - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1		
(H.) Upper Section	I. O. L. Mure	" - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
(H.) Lower Section	W. J. Brittain	No Return received.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
(I.) - " -	George Rose	" - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
(K.) - " -	W. H. Ware	Lochaber - - -	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1		
"	"	Lonsdale - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	work reduced.
"	"	Gebroeders - - -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1		
(L.) - " -	A. Van R. de Groot	" - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
(M.) - " -	K. Heyland	" - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
			11	6	7	8	1	8	3	2	-	-	54	37	8	

TABLE (C.)

EXHIBITING an EPITOME of all CASES brought before the Monthly Inferior Criminal Courts, together with the Results of the Proceedings in each Case.

No.	Name of Accused.	Station in life.	Offence charged with.	Result of Trial.
1	Joseph - -	apprenticed labourer -	burglary and theft - - - -	- - 3 months' imprisonment, half the time with hard labour, remainder solitary confinement, and 25 stripes.
2	London Lindsay	house servant - -	theft - - - -	acquitted.
3	London Lindsay	- idem - -	- idem, 3d conviction - - - -	as No. 1.
4	Dick - -	apprenticed labourer -	aggravated assault - - - -	3 months' imprisonment.
5	Nicholas - -	- idem - -	assault upon a constable - - - -	- idem - - - with hard labour.
6	Elizabeth Battle	fruit-seller - -	purchasing provisions from a soldier - - - -	- - fined 5 l., imprisonment until paid, not exceeding 14 days.
7	Wro. Harlequin -	carpenter - -	theft, 7th conviction - - - -	as No. 1, with 39 stripes.
8	W. R. Burton -	coachmaker - -	- - withholding wages due to an articled servant.	payment ordered.
9	J. Nathaniel -	apprenticed labourer -	theft - - - -	1 month's imprisonment, with hard labour.
10	F. Candido -	articled servant -	assault and riotous conduct - - - -	2 ditto - - - - ditto.
11	Windsor -	apprenticed labourer -	theft - - - -	14 days' ditto - - - ditto.
12	L. De Frietas -	- idem - -	waylaying with intent to stab - - - -	acquitted.
13	J. De Sylvia -	articled servant -	assault upon a constable - - - -	14 days' imprisonment, with hard labour.
14	Henry - -	apprenticed labourer -	- - selling a bottle of rum to a corporal of the 69th regiment.	- - to pay a fine of f. 150; in default, one month's imprisonment.
15	Francisco - -	- idem - -	} - - combining not to work, and disobedience } of lawful orders	each one month's solitary confinement.
16	Sam - -	- idem - -		
17	Mary Jane -	Huckster - -	theft - - - -	- idem.
18	Hope - -	- idem - -	idem - - - -	- - one month on treadmill, and solitary confinement when not at work.
19	Tidy - -	apprenticed labourer -	assault - - - -	1 month's solitary confinement.
20	Scipio - -	- idem - -	theft - - - -	- - 1 month on treadmill, and solitary confinement when not at work.
21	Tom - -	- idem - -	idem - - - -	3 months' solitary confinement in colony gaol.

BRITISH GUIANA.

—No. 166.—

(No. 19.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 166.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 27 January 1838.

As I am convinced that your Lordship will peruse the enclosed extract of a letter from the rector of the parish of St. Patrick, in the district of Berbice, with much pleasure, I take the liberty of laying it before you. Berbice has been divided into parishes little more than a year. It is truly gratifying to observe the good effects of this measure, even in so short a space of time.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth*.

Enclosure in No. 166.

Encl. in No. 166.

EXTRACT of a Letter from the Rev. *J. Fothergill*, rector of the parish of St. Patrick, in British Guiana, addressed to the Government Secretary, and dated January 18th, 1838.

I ALSO think that if our church be properly finished, as it requires, and our parochial schools flourish as at present, and the people go on in future as quietly as at this time, we shall not thank the colony for building any gaol in this quarter, or feel much indebted to any magistrate for appearing amongst us. I may by the way here remark, that on the three plantations, Canefield, Rose Hall and Reliance (nearest to the church, and consequently best supplied with instruction), no punishments have taken place during the whole of last year. These three estates have made 2,100 hogsheads of sugar.

(A true extract.)

W. B. Wolseley,
Assist^t Gov^t Sec^y.

—No. 167.—

(No. 20.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 167.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 26 January 1838.

I have the honour to forward to your Lordship the document respecting prædial and non-prædial labourers, called for in the last paragraph of your Lordship's circular of the 30th November 1837.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth*.

Enclosure in No. 167.

Encl. in No. 167.

RETURN of APPRENTICED LABOURERS according to the existing Classification.

DISTRICTS.	PRÆDIALS.	NON-PRÆDIALS.	TOTAL.
Demerara and Essequibo - -	51,762	6,253	58,015
Berbice - - - -	15,855	1,165	17,020
TOTAL - - - -	67,617	7,418	75,035

British Guiana,
Government Secretary's Office,
30 January 1838. }

H. E. F. Young,
Government Secretary.

Certified,

J. Carmichael Smyth,
Governor, British Guiana.

—No. 168.—

(No. 22.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 1 February 1838.

No. 168.

I HAD the honour to present, in Her Majesty's name, upon the 29th ultimo, gold medals to those 12 managers of estates in this colony who were selected and recommended by the special justices for their kindness and good conduct towards the apprenticed labourers attached to their several estates. I also presented three similar medals to the three medical gentlemen in charge of estates' hospitals, who were similarly recommended by the special justices.

I beg to lay before your Lordship an account of the ceremony, as also a copy of a short speech, which I felt it my duty to make to the gentlemen who received the medals.

I beg to add, that this annual distribution of gold medals has been attended with the best effects; it places the deserving and meritorious manager in a prominent point of view, whilst it makes manifest to the public that the conduct of all is equally watched over and duly appreciated.

I trust that my address to the managers will meet with Her Majesty's approbation.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth*.

Enclosure in No. 168.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR JAMES CARMICHAEL SMYTH was pleased this day, in the hall of the court of policy, in the presence of their honours the chief justice, the high sheriff and sheriff of Berbice, the reverend the clergy, the special magistracy, and a large concourse of the inhabitants, to present, in the name of Her Majesty, a gold medal to each of the under-mentioned gentlemen, managers of estates, and medical practitioners in charge of estates' hospitals in British Guiana, in testimony of The Queen's gracious approbation of their conduct towards the apprenticed labourers attached to the estates of which they respectively have the superintendence.

Encl. in No. 168.

District of Demerara :

1. W. H. Arnold, Esq., manager of plantation Le Repentir, leased by William Arrindell, Esq.
2. Sholto Douglas, Esq., manager of plantation Spring Hall, the property of R. M. Jones, Esq.
3. A. C. Archer, Esq., manager of plantation Greenfield, the property of Messrs. Alexander and James Glen.
4. Henry Hunter, Esq., manager of plantation Herstellng, M. J. Retemeyer, Esq., Attorney.

District of Essequibo :

1. J. Whitehead, Esq., manager of plantation Belle Plaine, the property of Messrs. Cornfoot and Bell, of London.
2. — Seward, Esq., manager of plantation Aberdeen, the property of Dr. Bell.
3. Robert Philip, Esq., manager of plantation Cullen, the property of A. Mackie, Esq.
4. A. Murdock, Esq., manager of plantation Perseverance, the property of the heirs of Cramer.

District of Berbice :

1. James Kirkwood, Esq., manager of plantation Canefield, the property of Messrs. D. C. Cameron and Kirkwood.
2. G. G. Lowenfeld, Esq., manager of plantation Gebroeders, Charles Matheson, Esq., Attorney.
3. — Currie, Esq., manager of plantation Providence, the property of William Henery, Esq.
4. A. Grant, Esq., manager of plantation Hope and Experiment, the property of — M'Calmont, Esq.

Medical Practitioners :

Dr. Mackie, of Leguan, Dr. James Fraser, of Essequibo, and Dr. J. B. Beresford, of Berbice.

II.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, his Excellency addressed the gentlemen who had received the medals as follows:—

Gentlemen,

It is with feelings of no common satisfaction that I meet, assembled in this hall, so many respectable gentlemen, justly entitled to the esteem of the community, and truly deserving of those honorary marks of distinction which the mild and benevolent Government under which we have the happiness to live has authorized me to distribute. In the name and on behalf of Her Majesty, I have the honour to present to you these medals. I hope that you may long continue to wear them; and I feel confident that you will be careful to transmit them to your children, as flattering testimonials equally of your own worth and of the gratifying notice taken of your conduct by our Sovereign.

I am desirous of availing myself of this opportunity of addressing to you personally a few words respecting the present state and the future prospects of this province.

With respect to its present state, I have only to observe, that the industry which prevails, the happiness, good order and contentment which, under the blessing of an Almighty Providence, are to be met with throughout British Guiana, are universally acknowledged. It is to you, gentlemen, and to such as think and act as you do, that we are principally indebted for these inestimable advantages. I am happy in bearing this public testimony to your merits.

With reference to the future, I wish to remark, that if under a mild and kind treatment, and by paying the labourer for extra work performed during his own time, such large quantities of produce as are now exported can be raised and manufactured, we, surely, in British Guiana, have no cause to apprehend that when the period arrives at which the labourer is to receive the full value of the whole of his day's work, he will discontinue or diminish his exertions. We shall require an equitable rural code; affording, on the one side, to the labourer the means of obtaining prompt payment for such work as he may have performed; and, on the other, ensuring to the employer that he shall not be subject to be abandoned or deserted at the caprice of the labourer in the midst of an agreement. I see no reason to doubt but that (under the government of a law founded upon those immutable principles of justice to which I have alluded) the agricultural labour in this colony will be cheerfully carried on, to the mutual advantage of all parties. That such will be the result, I fervently pray. That such will be the result, I sincerely believe. By steadily persevering in that praiseworthy line of conduct which you and the great body of the managers have so judiciously adopted, every prospect of triumphant success will be afforded to this important province of the empire.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth.*

By command,

29 January 1838.

H. E. F. Young, Government Secretary.

— No. 169. —

(No. 311.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart.

No. 169.

Sir,

Downing-street, 12 April 1838.

I HAVE received your despatch, No. 22, of the 1st February, in which you report the issue by you of the annual gold medals to the twelve managers of estates who had most distinguished themselves by their kindness and good conduct towards the apprentices under their charge, and to the three medical gentlemen whose services rendered to the apprentices had been most deserving of your approbation.

I have laid this despatch before Her Majesty; and I am to convey to you Her Majesty's gracious approval of the address which you delivered on the occasion, and Her Majesty's confident expectation that Her subjects in British Guiana will duly appreciate the testimony thus afforded to a species of merit which it is peculiarly gratifying to Her Majesty to notice as a ground of reward and distinction.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg.*

— No. 170. —

(No. 25.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 12 February 1838.

I BEG to lay before your Lordship copy of the speech which I addressed to the court of policy, a few days ago, upon the opening of the present session.

The state of this colony continues to be most gratifying; and I hope that the measures I have alluded to in my speech will meet with the approbation of Her Majesty.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth*.

No. 170.

Copy of the
Governor's Speech.

Enclosure in No. 170.

SPEECH of his Excellency the Governor on the opening of the Court of Policy.

Gentlemen,

HER Majesty having been graciously pleased to cause her royal approbation to be communicated to me of the practice I have adopted of addressing to this court, at the opening of the first session of the year, a summary review of the political events and circumstances of the past twelve months; a recapitulation of the legislative proceedings of the same period; and an intimation of the nature and purpose of the projects of law which it is my intention to bring forward; I feel it my duty to request your attention to the following observations upon the present occasion:—

Encl. in No. 170.

II.

I am in the first place desirous of offering you my sincere congratulations upon the happy, contented and prosperous state of this province. I challenge comparison with any county of Great Britain; and I affirm that fewer crimes and fewer breaches of the peace will be found to have been committed in British Guiana during the year 1837 than in any part of Her Majesty's dominions of the same extent, possessing two sea-ports, and containing an equal population.

III.

When I reflect upon the good conduct of the apprenticed labourers, upon their anxiety for religious and moral instruction; when I see new churches, chapels and schoolrooms rising rapidly in every district throughout this province, it is impossible not to be sanguine in the expectation that after the expiration of the apprenticeship system this colony will be blessed with a religious, moral and industrious peasantry, and continue to flourish accordingly.

IV.

You are aware, gentlemen, that in a despatch dated so far back as on the 19th March 1836 (now nearly two years ago), addressed by me to the Right honourable the Lord Glenelg, I deprecated the idea of shortening the period of the apprenticeship. The contents of that despatch have only been made known to you in consequence of its having been laid before Parliament, and been directed by the House of Commons to be printed. I allude to these circumstances in order to prevent the possibility of its being supposed, even for a moment, that in communicating to the Right honourable the Secretary of State my sentiments upon a question of so important a nature to the future prosperity of this colony, I was actuated by any foolish or mistaken desire to acquire an ephemeral popularity with any particular class in this colony. The sentiments I expressed in that despatch I still entertain. I consider the continuance of the present system until the 1st August 1840 as identified with the future welfare of this magnificent province. If I had been of opinion that a more immediate release from the apprenticeship would have benefited either this colony or the labourers themselves, I would have felt it my duty to have so reported to the Right honourable the Secretary of State. It appears to me that if, in British Guiana, we are allowed to continue as we are, there is every prospect of our being enabled to slide almost imperceptibly into a state of perfect freedom. Excepting in cases of theft, the degrading punishment of the lash is unknown. Females are not permitted to be sent to the treadmill. The advantages resulting from labour are becoming daily more understood and better appreciated by the apprentice. He is moreover fast acquiring a knowledge of the rights and duties which, as a free man, he will hereafter have in the one case to enjoy, and in the other to perform. The proprietor, on his part, is daily preparing to meet the coming change. A kind and a good feeling between the employer and the labourer is every where rapidly gaining ground. It is no longer the master and the slave having opposite interests; but the husbandman, who cannot effectually till his ground without the willing aid and the extra work of his apprenticed labourer; and the apprenticed labourer, who looks to the husbandman for that money, in payment for his extra labour, which he requires to enable him to take care of his wife and family, and to provide himself and them with those articles of comfort or of luxury to which they have become habituated. When things are going on so well as in British Guiana, it appears to me that it would be little short of an act of folly to offer any interruption to the present system.

BRITISH GUIANA.

V.

During the year which has elapsed, we passed 17 ordinances in this court. It does not appear necessary for me to trouble you, at this moment, with any remarks upon Acts which have so recently received your attention.

VI.

The first legislative measure which I wish to bring under your notice during the present session will be one relative to the classification of the prædial and non-prædial labourers. If errors have taken place; if any individual is liable to be called upon for two additional years of servitude, in consequence of his name having been entered in the wrong column of the registration list, it is fit and proper that he should be placed in that class to which he legally belongs. I anticipate your ready acquiescence in this measure.

VII.

Some alterations have been suggested by Her Majesty's Government in the ordinance establishing the British Guiana Bank. A copy of the despatch upon the subject has been communicated to the directors, and I have directed another copy to be laid on the table of this court. As soon as I hear from the bank directors that they are willing to accede to the alterations proposed in the despatch alluded to, no time will be lost in bringing before you for your consideration an amended ordinance.

VIII.

My time and my attention have been much engrossed of late in the consideration of the particulars of a Bill for establishing a Rural Code for the future government of this colony, which I am anxious at no distant period to lay before you for your consideration. I am in correspondence with Her Majesty's Government upon the subject. As soon as matters shall be more advanced, and have assumed a tangible shape, I shall invite your co-operation and assistance.

IX.

There are several measures connected with the finance of this colony, and more particularly with respect to the introduction of a silver circulating medium to an extent equal to what will be required for the payment of our labourers, which press upon us and demand our most serious attention. I shall, however, postpone what I have to remark upon these subjects until the meeting of the combined court.

Court of Policy, 3 February 1838.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth.*

—No. 171.—

(No. 310.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart.

No. 171.

Sir,

Downing-street, 12 April 1838.

I HAVE received your despatch, No. 25, of the 12th February, enclosing the speech which you had addressed to the court of policy on the opening of the session. I beg to convey to you my approval of this address, and to express the gratification which Her Majesty's Government derive from the report which you are enabled to make of the continued tranquillity and prosperity of the colony.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg.*

—No. 172.—

(No. 26.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth*, Bart., to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 172.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 12 February 1838.

I BEG to lay before your Lordship copy of a Government notice issued by my orders upon the 8th instant, exhibiting returns of the number and extent of punishments awarded during the month of January against apprenticed labourers by special justices; of the complaints preferred during the same period by apprenticed labourers or articted servants against their employers; and lastly, an epitome of all cases brought before the monthly criminal courts held in the several counties.

As these returns will enable your Lordship to form your own opinion as to the internal tranquillity and happiness enjoyed by the inhabitants of British Guiana throughout the whole extent of the province, I shall abstain from offering any remarks upon the present occasion.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth.*

Enclosures in No. 172.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

THE Governor has directed the following Returns for the month of January to be published Encl. in No. 172. in the Royal Gazette; viz.—

TABLE (A.)—Exhibiting the Number and Nature of Punishments upon Apprenticed Labourers in each District, together with a Summary of the Sentences awarded by the Special Justice.

TABLE (B.)—Exhibiting the Number and Nature of Complaints preferred by Apprenticed Labourers or Articled Servants, together with a Précis of the Decision of the Special Justice.

TABLE (C.)—Exhibiting an Epitome of all Cases brought before the Monthly Inferior Criminal Courts, together with the Result of the Proceedings in each Case.

By his Excellency's command.

(signed) *H. E. F. Young,*

Government Secretary

Guiana Public Buildings, 8 February 1838.

TABLE (A.)

EXHIBITING the NUMBER and EFFECT of the RETURNS of PUNISHMENTS received by the Governor from the Special Magistrates.

District.	Name of Special Magistrate.	Total Number of Apprentices comprised in this District.		Total No. of Punish- ments inflicted.	Total Number of Males punished.		Total Number of Females punished.	Average No. of Stripes in the Punishments by whipping.	Maximum No. of Stripes in any one Case of Punishment by whipping.	Maximum of Severity in any one Case of Punishment by Confinement.	Maximum of Severity in any other Mode of Punishment.
		Males.	Females.		By whipping.	Otherwise than by whipping.					
A. Upper Div.	Thos. Coleman	1,470	1,340	6	-	3	3	-	-	2 months	2 months' extra labour.
A. Lower Div.	C. H. Strutt	1,728	1,617	51	-	27	24	-	-	2 months	3 months' hard labour on the treadmill.
B. - - -	A. M. Lyons	2,932	2,739	33	-	15	18	-	-	1 month	2 weeks' extra labour.
C. Town Div.	Geo. Ross	3,358	3,450	11	-	4	7	-	-	3 weeks	3 weeks' hard labour.
C. Town Div.	Austin Carroll	-	-	18	-	16	2	-	-	3 weeks	3 weeks' hard labour in the penal gang.
C. Upper Div.	J. A. Allen	2,386	2,167	24	-	13	9	-	-	3 months	3 months' extra labour.
D. - - -	D. M'Lennan	3,186	2,595	28	-	19	9	2 of these were twice punished.	-	1 month	3 weeks' extra labour.
E. - - -	Thos. Delafons	2,831	2,637	67	-	29	38	-	-	2 months	3 months' hard labour.
F. - - -	George Kellock	4,456	4,346	6	-	3	3	-	-	2 months.	
G. - - -	George Ball	1,850	1,400	6	-	5	1	-	-	2 months	3 months at the treadmill.
H. Upper Div.	J. O. L. Mure	1,475	1,868	3	-	3	-	-	-	1 week	2 weeks' extra labour.
H. Lower Div.	W. J. Brittain	1,800	1,560	9	-	7	2	-	-	1 month.	
I. - - -	George Rose	1,065	924	1	-	1	-	-	-	1 week.	
K. - - -	W. H. Ware	2,557	2,423	12	-	10	2	-	-	3 weeks.	
L. - - -	A. Van R. de Groot	1,604	1,449	30	-	19	11	-	-	3 months	3 months on the treadmill.
M. - - -	K. Heyland	1,891	1,646	28	-	21	7	-	-	6 weeks	3 months' extra labour.

TABLE (B.)

GENERAL RETURN of COMPLAINTS preferred by APPRENTICED LABOURERS or ARTICLED SERVANTS.

District.	Special Justice.	From what Estate.	For Assault or illegal Confinement.	Relative to Food.	Relative to Clothing.	Relative to Lodging.	Relative to Hospital Treatment.	Relative to Work, Quantity or Description.	Relative to Wages for extra Work.	Relative to Treatment when Pregnant or Nursing.	Relative to the Destruction of Pigs or other personal Property.	Relative to Terms of Indenture.	Total Number of Complaints.	Complaints pronounced frivolous or unfounded.	Complaints amicably settled or compromised.	Complaints followed to Conviction.	Maximum of Punishment awarded for Ill-treatment of Apprenticed Labourer or Articled Servant.
A. Upper Section -	Thomas Coleman	Carleton Hall -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
"	"	Woodlands -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	
"	"	Belmont -	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	
A. Lower Section -	C. H. Strutt	Chapman's Grove -	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	
"	"	Beehive -	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	
"	"	Ann's Grove -	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
"	"	John and Cove -	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	
"	"	Paradise -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
"	"	Bachelor's Adventure	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	4	-	4	-	
B. - - -	A. M. Lyons	Nonpareil -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
"	"	Felicity -	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	
"	"	Cuming's Lodge -	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	
"	"	Brothers -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	Fined 10s.
"	"	Annandale -	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	4	-	4	-	
C. - - -	J. A. Allen	La Penitence -	4	1	1	6	1	1	2	-	-	-	16	-	13	3	Fined 15s.
"	"	Ruinveld -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
"	"	Rome and Houston	1	5	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	9	-	9	-	
"	"	Velzerhoofd -	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
"	"	Peter's Hall -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
"	"	Providence -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
"	"	Farm -	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	3	-	
"	"	Covent Garden -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
"	"	Little Diamond -	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	
"	"	Friendship -	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	3	-	3	-	
"	"	Garden of Eden -	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
"	"	Areadia and Mocha	-	1	-	1	2	3	-	-	-	-	7	-	7	-	
D. - - -	D. Maclellan	Wales -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	
"	"	Malgrè Tout -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	
"	"	Camoonney Creek -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	
"	"	Potosi -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	
E. - - -	Thomas Delafons	Waller's Delight -	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	
"	"	Haarlem -	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	1	Fined £. 7. sterling.
F. - - -	George Kellock	"	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
G. - - -	George Ball	Huis t'Dieren -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
"	"	Hoff Van Holland -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
"	"	Spring Garden -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	3	-	
H. Upper Section -	J. O. L. Mure	Anna Regina -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	
H. Lower Section -	W. J. Brittain	Perth -	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	
I. - - -	George Rose	"	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
K. - - -	W. H. Ware	Enfield -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
"	"	Overwinning -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
"	"	Locaber -	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	-	-	
"	"	Balthyock -	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
"	"	Fry and Co. -	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
L. - - -	A. Van R. De Groot	"	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
M. - - -	K. Heyland	Mary's Hope -	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	
"	"	Skeldon -	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	2	-	1	
Town District -	George Ross	Kitty -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
"	"	Art. Srt. Georgetown	2	1	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	9	-	6	3	Fined 9f.
"	Austin Carroll	A. L. Georgetown	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	3	1	Fined £. 5.
			21	18	5	13	12	24	15	-	-	-	111	21	80	10	

TABLE (C.)

EXHIBITING an EPILOGUE of all CASES brought before the MONTHLY INFERIOR CRIMINAL COURTS, together with the Result of the Proceedings in each Case.

No.	Name of Accused.	Station in Life.	Offence charged with.	Result of Trial.
1	Sammy Ireland -	Stone-mason - -	Breaking out of gaol when under sentence of the Supreme Criminal Court, and stabbing a man sent in pursuit of him.	Three months' imprisonment; hard labour half the time, solitary confinement the remainder, and to receive 39 stripes at the expiration of former sentence.
2	Jacobus Scheffers	Carpenter - -	Harbouring and employing an apprentice of another person - - - - -	Fined £. 10. sterling; imprisonment until paid, not exceeding one month.
3	Klaas - -	Apprenticed labourer -	Stealing a watch and key - - - - -	One month's solitary confinement, and to receive 25 stripes.
4	Frederick Harman	Fisherman - -	Assault and battery - - - - -	Acquitted, prosecutor not appearing.
5	Jenny - -	Apprenticed labourer -	Selling spirits - - - - -	Fined ten joes, and imprisoned one month.
6	John Wellington Sheriff.	Stone-mason - -	Theft - - - - -	Acquitted, prosecutor not appearing.
7	Fortune - -	Apprenticed labourer -	- idem (third conviction) - - - - -	Three months' imprisonment; hard labour and solitary confinement.
8	John Munro -	Mariner - -	Assault - - - - -	Reprimanded.
9	Jim - -	Apprenticed labourer -	Burglary (sixth conviction) - - - - -	Three months' imprisonment, with hard labour.
10	James - -	- idem - -	Theft - - - - -	Two months' imprisonment, with hard labour, and to receive 25 stripes.
11	Wellington -	- idem - -	Breaking into and stealing from a puncheon of rum - - - - -	- idem - - - idem - - - idem.
12	Wallace - -	- idem - -	- - - - -	- - - - -
13	Adam - -	- idem - -	Theft - - - - -	idem - - - idem, and to receive 39 stripes.
14	William Smith -	- idem - -	Trespass and assault - - - - -	Fined £. 2. sterling; imprisonment until paid not exceeding six days.
15	William Henery -	Labourer - -	Burglary - - - - -	Three months' solitary imprisonment, and to receive 20 stripes.
16	Thomas Henery -	Apprenticed labourer -	Theft - - - - -	- idem - - - 30 idem.
17	Quickly - -	- idem - -	- idem - - - - -	- idem, with hard labour - - idem.
18	Agnes Lewis -	not stated - -	Assault and battery - - - - -	Fined £. 20. sterling; imprisonment until paid, not exceeding two months.

—No. 173.—

COPY of a DESPATCH from *H. E. F. Young, Esq.*, to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Camp House, Demerara, 5 March 1838.

No. 173.

It is my very painful duty to announce to your Lordship the melancholy intelligence of the death of Sir James Carmichael Smyth. This lamentable event was occasioned by fever, and occurred yesterday at 10 minutes past six o'clock in the evening, after an illness of only four days.

Major Orange, of the 67th Regiment, as senior officer of Her Majesty's Forces, on full pay, in British Guiana, has consequently succeeded to the administration of the government, but as he is at present in the county of Berbice, and cannot arrive in Demerara for at least a day or two, I have felt it right to communicate these tidings to your Lordship without delay. I have, after consultation with the chief justice, adopted the customary measures to facilitate the immediate assumption by Major Orange of the functions of Acting Governor. In the absence of Major Orange from the seat of government, I have reported his succession to his Excellency Lieutenant-general Sir Samford Whittingham.

BRITISH GUIANA.

The unaffected admiration, the respectful affection and veneration with which I regard the memory of my lamented chief and friend would prevent my presuming upon even a faint allusion to his uncommon merit from one of so little note as myself, did I not know that my humble opinion is but the echo of that which on public grounds your Lordship has so frequently had occasion to express. The eminent services of the intrepid—the just—the signally successful ruler of this not easily-governed colony, have been repeatedly honoured with your Lordship's cordial acknowledgments and with the gracious approbation of our Sovereign; yet permit me, with feelings of the utmost respect, to state, that my humble testimony now supplies this further corroboration of the late Sir James Carmichael Smyth's conspicuous worth, in that his (humanly speaking) untimely removal from a sphere of extensive usefulness, to which he was incessantly devoted, has excited the deepest regret in the bosom of every individual, whilst to the community at large his loss appears a great public calamity.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. E. F. Young,*
Government Secretary.

— No. 174. —

COPY of a DESPATCH from Major *W. N. Orange* to Lord *Glenelg*.

No. 174.

My Lord,

Public Buildings, Demerara, 7 March 1838.

THE despatch of the Government Secretary, dated the 5th instant, will have apprized your Lordship of my succession to the temporary government of this colony, vacant by the deeply-lamented death, on the 4th instant, of the late Major-general Sir James Carmichael Smyth. I have now the honour to acquaint your Lordship, that the oaths of office were this day administered to me in the customary manner, and the publication usual on these occasions has been issued by myself and the court of policy, of which I beg to annex a copy.

A.

B.

C.

I have also to forward a copy of an address to the apprenticed labourers, and of a circular letter to the sheriffs and special justices, directing them to give due publicity to the said address. I respectfully trust that these measures, intended for the general good, may be honoured with your Lordship's approbation.

I have great satisfaction in announcing to your Lordship that the latest accounts from every part of the colony report a state of good order and perfect tranquillity to be prevalent.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. N. Orange*
Major 67th Reg. Commg. Troops.

Enclosures in No. 174.

(A.)

Encl. in No 174.

PUBLICATION by his Excellency Major *William Nesbitt Orange*, Commanding Her Majesty's Troops, Acting Governor; and the Honourable the Court of Policy of *British Guiana*.

UNTO all to whom these presents may or shall concern, greeting: Be it known:—

WHEREAS, by the lamented death of his Excellency the late Major-general Sir *James Carmichael Smyth*, Baronet, the administration of the government of British Guiana hath devolved upon Major *William Nesbitt Orange*, of the 67th Regiment of Foot, who did this day take the usual oaths of office, we have thought fit to issue this our Publication, in order that the said event may be promulgated for general information.

Thus done at our Extraordinary Assembly, held at the Hall of the Honourable the Court of Policy, at the Guiana Public Buildings, this 7th day of March 1838, and published the same day.

By command of the Court,
H. E. F. Young, Secretary.

(B.)

AN ADDRESS to the APPRENTICED LABOURERS of *British Guiana*, by his Excellency *William Nesbitt Orange*, Major of the 67th Regiment of Foot, Commanding H. M. Troops, Acting Governor and Commander-in-chief of *British Guiana*.

Apprenticed Labourers,

YOUR beloved Governor—your watchful and kind friend, the late Major-general Sir James Carmichael Smyth—always gave you a good character. He always said with confidence, that you would be willing and able to prove that his favourable opinion of you was correct and just. Now, at this time, when it has been the will of Almighty God to remove him into another world, is afforded to you an opportunity of showing your grateful sense of his never-wearied zeal for your interests. Prove to the world how greatly you have profited by the good advice he so frequently gave you. Is there any one of you who is inclined to be idle, or disobedient, or inattentive to what your magistrates, or your managers, or your head people may say to you? Think what the good Governor—now no more—the poor man's friend—would say were he still upon earth: "Labour and obedience to the laws must be the lot of every man who desires to do well and to be protected." This is what he has often told you; and by continued good conduct, by continued industry, by an absence of complaints against you, you will best show your grateful respect for the memory of him who took a pride in promoting your welfare—who rejoiced in your good behaviour—who upheld your character—who grieved when any one of you did wrong.

Apprenticed Labourers,

The Queen's orders have made me, for the time being, the successor of your late Governor. To-day, in humble reliance upon Divine Providence, I took the oaths of office, and swore to acquit myself to the best of my ability in the high situation which has unexpectedly devolved upon me. You all know that the same laws which the late Governor caused to be administered are still in force, and will continue in force, until in 1840 other laws will be made.

I have served under the command of your late Governor. I know how fearless, how just a man he was. Fearlessly and justly, according to my conscience, I will endeavour respectfully to follow in his honoured steps. Acting upon his inflexible principles, I will favour no man; but I will be anxious and zealous to do full justice, according to law, to every man—high and low—knowing no distinction (in cases of right and wrong) of rank or class or colour.

Given under my hand and seal, at the Guiana Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara, this 7th day of March 1838, and in the first year of Her Majesty's reign.

William Nesbitt Orange, Acting Governor.

By command of his Excellency the Acting Governor,

H. E. F. Young, Government Secretary.

(C.)

(Circular.)

Sir,

Guiana Public Buildings, 7 March 1838.

HIS Excellency the Acting Governor has directed me to forward to you the accompanying Address to the Apprenticed Labourers, with his earnest request that you should give it the utmost publicity throughout your district.

II.

The implicit trust and confidence which were reposed by all classes, but especially by the apprenticed labourers, in the distinguished individual whose death the whole community so deeply deplore, have rendered the loss of his valuable life a great public calamity. The continuance of good order, the stability of the present flourishing state of the country, demands from every officer in the service of Her Majesty the utmost care and circumspection at this time; nor can this care, in the opinion of his Excellency the Acting Governor, be better exercised on your part than by the most patient and assiduous exertions to maintain and increase the reliance of the inhabitants of your district, in the due and upright administration of the laws generally, and most especially in the zealous and impartial execution of such of them as relate to your office. By more than ordinary attempts (made however discreetly, and only as occasion may in your judgment seem to require) to draw to yourself some portion of that confiding expectation and submission with which the lower orders invariably regarded the acts of the late Governor, you will contribute most materially to the preservation of the public tranquillity.

Should your prudent and alert conduct have this happy effect, and tend also to the maintenance of cheerful industry, it will be the pleasing duty of his Excellency the Acting Governor to obtain for you the thanks of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

H. E. F. Young, Government Secretary.

To their Honours the respective Sheriffs and Special Justices.

BRITISH GUIANA.

No. 175.

(No. 314.)

—No. 175.—

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to the Officer administering the Government of *British Guiana*.

Sir,

Downing-street, 16 April 1838.

ON the eve of the departure of the packet, the intelligence has reached me of the death of Sir James Carmichael Smyth. It has been my mournful duty to communicate the intelligence to The Queen, and it has been received by Her Majesty with deep concern. By Her Majesty's Government the loss to Her Majesty's service is severely felt; and on my own part it would not be easy for me to express to you the sorrow which I feel for the death of Sir James Carmichael Smyth, both as a public calamity and on grounds of the highest personal respect and esteem.

After administering the government of the Bahamas for some years with ability, decision and success, he was appointed to the highly-important post which he has since occupied, at that critical period when the minds both of the planters and of the negroes were agitated at the approach of great changes in the relations between them and in the general condition of society. It was above all things essential to the safety of the colonial community that the Governor should inspire the negroes with an implicit confidence in his determination to do justice to their cause, and this confidence was almost immediately secured by the energy and inflexible resolution with which Sir James Carmichael Smyth protected their rights and promoted their well-being upon all occasions. And if his policy was for a time disapproved and resisted by the planters, they had at least the satisfaction of knowing at all times that they were under the government of a man whose abilities and courage rendered him equal to any emergency that could arise; whilst, as the course of events unfolded the advantages of the conduct which had been adopted, and proved the wisdom of the spirit by which the Governor had been guided in his administration of affairs, bearing upon the relations between the planter and the negro, all parties appear to have become equally sensible of the gratitude which was owing to him. They were indeed indebted mainly to him for the ease and security with which the transition from slavery to apprenticeship had been accomplished, and for the growing prosperity, contentment, and moral and religious improvement which followed, and to the promotion of which his efforts were unceasingly and most efficaciously directed down to the last days of his existence.

There is no public functionary in the colonial empire at the present time whose continued services would have been of higher importance to the prospects of the portion of that empire which is now placed in circumstances at once so novel and so deeply interesting to humanity. The only consolation which can be suggested for the loss of such services is to be found in the reflection, that the security, confidence and contentment which his efforts have established, afford the best promise of success in conducting the colonial society through the changes which are yet to come, and that the benefits which have been derived from his exertions are not of a nature to terminate with his life.

It must be my care to advise Her Majesty, to the best of my ability, in the selection of a successor, to whose hands, under Divine Providence, the arduous trust which has thus become vacant may be worthily committed. The arrangements which are to be made in the meantime will be notified to you in a separate despatch.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg*.

(No. 43.)

—No. 176.—

No. 176.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Major *Orange* to Lord *Glenelg*.

My Lord,

Public Buildings, Demerara, 14 March 1838.

WITH reference to the despatch, No. 26, dated 12th February last, addressed to your Lordship by the late Governor, I have now the honour of forwarding to your Lordship returns for last month, exhibiting the number and extent of punishments awarded against apprenticed labourers by special justices; of the complaints preferred by apprenticed labourers or articted servants against their employers; and lastly an epitome of all cases brought before the criminal courts held in the several counties.

I have, &c.

(signed) *W. N. Orange*, Acting Governor.

Enclosure in No. 176.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

Encl. in No. 176.

THE Acting Governor has directed the following Returns for the month of February to be published in the Royal Gazette.

By his Excellency's command,

(signed) *H. E. F. Young,*

Government Secretary.

Guiana Public Buildings, 13 March 1838.

(A.)

EXHIBITING the NUMBER and EFFECT of the RETURNS of PUNISHMENTS received by the Governor from the Special Magistrates.

District.	Name of Special Magistrate.	Total Number of Apprentices comprised in this District.		Total No. of Punish- ments inflicted.	Total Number of Males punished.		Total Number of Females punished.	Average No. of Stripes in the Punishments by whipping.	Maximum No. of Stripes in any one Case of Punishment by whipping.	Maximum of Severity in any one Case of Punishment by Confinement.	Maximum of Severity in any other Mode of Punishment.
		Males.	Females.		By whipping.	Otherwise than by whipping.					
A. Upper Div. -	Thos. Coleman -	1,470	1,340	26	-	6	20	-	-	16 days	1 month's extra labour on the estate.
A. Lower Div. -	C. H. Strutt -	1,728	1,617	31	-	16	15	-	-	14 days	3 months' hard labour on the treadmill.
B. - - -	A. M. Lyons -	2,932	2,739	37	-	20	17	-	-	1 month	2 weeks' extra labour.
C. Town Div. -	Geo. Ross -	3,346	3,428	11	-	8	3	-	-	2 weeks	2 weeks' hard labour.
C. Town Div. -	Austin Carroll -			19	-	14	5	-	-	4 weeks	4 weeks' hard labour
C. Upper Div. -	J. A. Allen -	2,243	2,134	41	-	16	25	-	-	1 week	3 months' hard labour
D. - - -	D. McLennan -	3,183	2,594	18	-	13	5	-	-	2 months	1 month's extra labour.
E. - - -	Thos. Delafons -	2,831	2,637	77	-	26	51	-	-	- - Colony prison four months, solitary confinement 3 months.	42 days' extra labour.
F. - - -	George Kellock -	4,456	4,346	6	-	4	12	-	-	1 month	
G. - - -	George Ball -	2,000	1,470	3	-	2	1	-	-	1 month	1 month's hard labour at the treadmill.
H. Upper Div. -	J. O. L. Mure -	1,434	1,350	17	-	13	4	-	-	1 month	20 days' extra labour.
H. Lower Div. -	W. J. Brittain -	1,800	1,560	16	-	6	10	-	-	2 months.	
I. - - -	George Rose -	1,063	923	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
K. - - -	W. H. Ware -	2,556	2,423	30	-	22	8	-	-	2 months.	
L. - - -	A. Van R. de Groot	1,604	1,449	29	-	7	22	-	-	1 month	1 month's hard labour on the estate.
M. - - -	K. Heyland -	1,891	1,646	7	-	1	6	-	-	2 weeks	2 weeks' extra labour.

(B.)

GENERAL RETURN of COMPLAINTS preferred by APPRENTICED LABOURERS or ARTICLED SERVANTS.

District.	Special Justice.	From what Estate.	For Assault or Illegal Confinement.	Relative to Food.	Relative to Clothing.	Relative to Lodging.	Relative to Hospital Treatment.	Relative to Work, Quantity or Description.	Relative to Wages for Extra Work.	Relative to Treatment when Pregnant or Nursing.	Relative to the Destruction of Pigs or other Personal Property.	Relative to Terms of Indenture.	Total Number of Complaints.	Complaints pronounced Frivolous or Unfounded.	Complaints Amicably Settled or Compromised.	Complaints followed to Conviction.	Maximum of Punishment awarded for Ill-treatment of Apprenticed Labourer or Articled Servant.
A. Upper Section -	Thomas Coleman	Helena - -	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	1	Fined 48 <i>f</i> .
"	"	Melville - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	
A. Lower Section -	C. H. Strutt -	Greenfield - -	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3	-	
"	"	Clonbroek - -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
"	"	Ann's Grove - -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
"	"	Dochfour - -	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	-	
"	"	Baillie's Hope - -	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	
"	"	John and Cove - -	-	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	5	1	4	-	
"	"	Paradise - -	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	
B. - - -	A. M. Lyons -	Friendship - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	Fined 10 <i>s</i> .
"	"	Turkeyen - -	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	4	-	
"	"	Good Hope - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	
"	"	Felicity - -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	
"	"	Vryheid's Lust - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	
"	"	New Orange Massau - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
C. - - -	J. A. Allen -	La Penitence - -	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3	-	
"	"	Ruimveld - -	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3	-	
"	"	Rome and Houston - -	1	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	5	-	
"	"	Peter's Hall - -	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	
"	"	Herstelling - -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	
"	"	Farm - -	-	10	-	1	7	-	-	-	-	-	18	5	4	9	Fined 21 <i>s</i> .
"	"	Covent Garden - -	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
"	"	Great Diamond - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
"	"	Little Diamond - -	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	3	-	3	-	
"	"	Golden Grove - -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
"	"	Friendship - -	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	
"	"	Arcadia and Mocha - -	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3	-	
"	"	Henry - -	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	
"	"	Profit - -	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	3	1	2	-	
Town Section -	George Ross -	Employers Art. Svts. -	3	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	9	4	2	3	Fined 9 <i>f</i> .
"	Austin Carroll -	Employers N. P. -	2	2	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	7	-	
D. - - -	D. McLennan -	Anna Catharina - -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	
"	"	Good Intent - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	
"	"	Nismes - -	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
"	"	Vreedon Vriendschap -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
E. - - -	Thomas Delafons -	Greenwich Park - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	Fined 6 <i>f</i> .
"	"	Blankenburg - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	Fined 12 <i>f</i> .
F. - - -	George Kellock -	Success - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	
"	"	Wisselvalligheid - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
"	"	Vertroven - -	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	Fined £. 16 & £. 5.
"	"	Articled Servant - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
G. - - -	George Ball -	Spring Garden - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	3	1	-	
H. Upper Section	J. O. L. Mure -	No complaint - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
H. Lower Section	W. J. Brittain -	No return received -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
I. - - -	George Rose -	No complaint - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
K. - - -	W. H. Ware -	Balthrock - -	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3	-	Fined 5 <i>s</i> .
"	"	Blairmont - -	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	2	1	
"	"	Gebroeders - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	
"	"	Lonsdale - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	
"	"	Lochaber - -	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	
"	"	Everton - -	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	
L. - - -	A. Van R. De Groot -	Rosfield - -	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	1	Fined £. 1.
M. - - -	K. Heyland -	Mary's Hope - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	
"	"	Hampshire - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	Fined 14 <i>f</i> .
			29	21	2	19	3	37	6	1	1	6	125	32	72	21	

(C.)

EXHIBITING an EPITOME of all Cases brought before the MONTHLY INFERIOR CRIMINAL COURTS, together with the Result of the Proceedings in each Case.

No.	Name of Accused.	Station in Life.	Offence charged with.	Result of Trial.
1	Edward - -	Apprenticed labourer -	Burglary and theft - - - -	One month's imprisonment in colony jail with hard labour, and to receive 15 stripes.
2	Polydore - -	- - idem - -	Assault on a constable - - - -	Fourteen days - - - ditto - - ditto.
3	John B. Edward	- - idem - -	Theft - - - -	Three months' imprisonment with hard labour, and to receive 30 stripes.
4	Friday - -	- - idem - -	Idem - - - -	One month's - - - ditto - - ditto.
5	Colin - -	- - idem - -	Burglary and theft - - - -	Acquitted.
6	Christ. Behrends	Merchant - -	Harbouring and employing another person's apprentice - - - -	Fined £ 10. and 10 stripes per day for 12 days ; imprisonment till paid, not to exceed one month.
7	Christian Goding	Shop-keeper - -	Selling spirits to soldiers - - - -	Fined 150 guilders - - ditto - 14 days.
8	Jane Harlequin -	Semstress - -	As No. 6. - - - -	Fined £. 3. - - - ditto - - ditto.
9	Jos. Bignel - }	Mariners of the brig } Frederick - -	Assaulting the master of the brig Frederick - -	One week solitary imprisonment in colony jail. - - - idem.
10	James Moll - }	Frederick - -	Burglary and theft - - - -	Two months' imprisonment with hard labour, and to receive 25 stripes.
11	M'Leod - -	Apprenticed labourer -	Burglary and theft - - - -	One month's imprisonment with hard labour.
12	Dominique - -	- - idem - -	Wilful indolence, unlawful absence from work, and instigating others to acts of insubordination - - - -	Three months' imprisonment with ditto and 39 st.
13	George - -	- - idem - -	Breaking out of jail when under sentence and subsequently committing various thefts - -	Fined £. 4., imprisonment till paid, not to exceed one month.
14	Samuel Jeffery -	Not described - -	Assault and battery on a female - - - -	Two months' solitary confinement.
15	Alexander - -	Apprenticed labourer -	Theft - - - -	Fined £. 10.
16	James Lea - -	- - idem - -	Assault - - - -	One month's solitary confinement.
17	Prince - -	- - idem - -	Assault and wounding - - - -	- - ditto - - or a fine of £. 5.
18	Charles - -	- - idem - -	Ditto ditto - - - -	Acquitted.
19	J. B. Gray - -	- - idem - -	- - - -	Fined 220 guilders.
20	A. G. Fowler -	- - idem - -	- - - -	" 330 ditto.
21	J. Longley - -	- - idem - -	- - - -	" 220 ditto.
22	A. W. Perry - -	- - idem - -	- - - -	" 220 ditto.
23	D. Grant - -	- - idem - -	- - - -	" 110 ditto.
24	Evan M'Donald -	Gentlemen in charge of Estates in the County of Essequibo. }	Illegal state of the roads - - - -	Acquitted.
25	James Mulligan -	- - - -	- - - -	ditto.
26	Jos. Whitehead -	- - - -	- - - -	ditto.
27	C. E. Drake - -	- - - -	- - - -	ditto.
28	W. Napier - -	- - - -	- - - -	ditto.

TABLE (B.)

RETURN of the NUMBER and EFFECT of the RETURNS of PUNISHMENTS received by the Governor of *British Guiana* from the Special Magistrates, from the 1st June 1837 to the 31st January 1838.

DATE.	Total Number of Apprentices throughout the Government.	Total Number of Punishments inflicted under the Authority of Special Magistrates throughout the same.	Proportion per Cent. of Punishments to Apprentices.	Total Number of Males punished.		Total Number of Females punished.	The Average Number of Stripes inflicted in Cases of Punishment by Whipping.	The Maximum Number of Stripes inflicted in any one Case of Punishment by Whipping.	The Maximum of Severity in any one Case of Punishment by Confinement.	The Maximum of Severity in any other Mode of Punishment.
				By Whipping.	Otherwise than by Whipping.					
1837:										
June - -	70,479	334	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	166	167	30	30	One month - -	- - One month's hard labour on the treadmill.
July - -	69,932	651	1	-	326	325	-	-	Three months -	Two months' ditto.
August -	70,215	506	$\frac{2}{3}$	8	257	241	28	35	Three months -	Two months' ditto.
September -	67,261	350	$\frac{1}{2}$	-	222	128	-	-	Three months -	Two months' ditto.
October -	66,291	345	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	198	146	39	39	Two months -	Two months' ditto.
November -	67,326	365	$\frac{1}{2}$	2	196	167	39	39	Three months -	Two months' ditto.
December -	66,153	328	$\frac{1}{2}$	-	181	147	-	-	Three months -	Three months' ditto.
1838:										
January -	66,250	333	$\frac{1}{2}$	-	196	137	-	-	Three months -	Three months' ditto.
February -	66,293	368	$\frac{1}{2}$	-	174	194	-	-	Four months -	Three months' ditto.

APPENDIX.

COLONIAL LAWS.

Appendix, No. 5.

ENCLOSURE in Sir *E. J. Murray M'Gregor's* Despatch, 4 April 1837.—No. 76.

Barbados.—No. 620.

Appendix, No. 5.

AN ACT to repeal the 38th Clause of an Act, intituled, "An Act for the Abolition of Slavery, for the Government of Apprenticed Labourers, and for ascertaining and enforcing the reciprocal Duties between them and their Employers."—Passed 30 March 1837.

WHEREAS erroneous impressions have been engendered in the minds of the apprenticed labourers of this Island, which have operated most injuriously on the condition of their free children :

And whereas the provisions of the 38th clause of the Abolition Act of this Island, taken from the Act of the Imperial Parliament, authorizing in certain cases the apprenticeship of these children, has been made the means of creating these impressions, and has become altogether inoperative ;

1. Be it therefore enacted, by the governor, council and assembly, That the said clause shall be and the same is hereby absolutely repealed.

2. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That this Act shall not be in force in this Island until his Majesty's pleasure shall be known thereon.

Read three times, and passed the Council unanimously, this 28th day of March 1837.

Read three times, and passed the General Assembly, this 14th day of March 1837.

(signed) *Samuel Husbands,*
Acting Clerk of the Council.

(signed) *John Mayers,*
Clerk of the General Assembly.

I assent.

30 March 1837.

(signed) *E. J. Murray M'Gregor,* Governor.

Repeals the 38th Clause of the Act here mentioned. Clause 2, not to be in force until his Majesty's pleasure shall be known.

Appendix, No. 6.

ENCLOSURE in Governor Sir *J. C. Smyth's* Despatch, 6 December 1836.—No. 140.

British Guiana.—No. 86.

Appendix, No. 6.

AN ORDINANCE regulating the Qualification for the exercise of the Elective Franchise in British Guiana.—(Passed 2d December 1836.)

ORDINANCE enacted by his Excellency Major-General Sir *James Carmichael Smyth*, Bart., &c. &c. &c., by and with the advice and consent of the Honourable the Court of Policy.

To all whom these presents do, may or shall come, greeting ; Be it known :

WHEREAS upon the 2d day of May 1835, his Excellency the Lieutenant-governor, by and with the advice and consent of the honourable the Court of Policy of British Guiana, framed and passed an ordinance, intituled, "An Ordinance to establish a new qualification for the exercise of the Elective Franchise in this Colony:" And whereas it is expedient and necessary that the same should be repealed :

Be it therefore enacted, as it is hereby enacted, That from and after the passing and publication of this ordinance, the said ordinance, intituled, "An Ordinance to establish a new qualification for the exercise of the Elective Franchise in this Colony" shall be and the same is hereby declared to be repealed.

1. And be it enacted, That from and after the taking effect of this ordinance, every inhabitant of this colony, of full age and not subject to any legal disability, who, for himself, or as curator, administrator, sequestrator, executor, guardian, or in any other capacity, shall have been assessed to pay direct taxes to the colonial revenue upon an income of not less than 2,001 guilders, or who shall have paid direct taxes to the amount of 70 guilders

or

or upwards, in the year of or in the year preceding any new election of a member of the College of Electors or of the College of Financial Representatives of this colony, or who after the publication of this ordinance shall be assessed upon an income of the amount as aforesaid, or who shall be assessed and liable to pay to the colonial revenue of the said colony direct taxes to the amount of 70 guilders or upwards, and not being in arrear in the payment of such taxes for more than six months from the date of such taxes becoming payable, shall be entitled to vote upon and for the election of any such member of the respective colleges aforesaid.

2. And be it further enacted, That where two or more persons shall possess jointly, or in common, any estate or plantation, or shall be connected as partners in any trade, business or profession, jointly returning or paying direct taxes to the colonial receiver, each and every of such possessors or partners shall be entitled to vote as aforesaid: Provided that the amount of direct taxes by them jointly paid or payable (when divided by the number of persons paying the same,) shall be sufficient to give or leave to each of such possessors or partners a proportion amounting to the sum of 70 guilders; and provided further, that every such possessor or partner, claiming a right to vote, shall be bound to prove annually, by the affidavit of himself, or of some other credible person, before a magistrate or justice of the peace, who is hereby authorized and required to administer the same without fee or reward, that his individual share of such direct taxes amounts to 70 guilders; which affidavit, to be made as aforesaid, shall be lodged at the office of the Financial Accountant in George Town, or at the office of the Assistant Receiver-General in New Amsterdam.

3. And be it enacted, That every person possessing a right to vote as aforesaid, and who shall be absent from the colony, shall be entitled to vote by his or her agent or attorney: Provided always, that the name or names of the party or parties absent from the colony, in whose behalf any vote or votes are given, shall be fully set forth in such vote or votes. And be it further enacted, That in every case in which any property affording a qualification or qualifications for voting as aforesaid is administered by sequestrators, curators, administrators, executors, guardians or trustees, such sequestrators and others as aforesaid, shall be entitled to vote in respect of such property on behalf of the owner or owners thereof: Provided always, that the number of votes received or receivable in respect thereof shall not exceed the number of votes which, under this ordinance, it would be competent for the owner or owners thereof, if in the immediate administration thereof, and directly exercising the right of voting, to give; provided further, that in cases where such property is owned jointly or in common by two or more persons, the affidavit relating thereto, as prescribed in the second section of this ordinance, shall be made and given in.

4. And be it further enacted, That in each and every year, commencing with the year 1837, the Financial Accountant in George Town, and the Assistant Receiver-General in New Amsterdam, shall be bound, and they are each of them hereby required, within one calendar month from the last day fixed by law for giving in at the offices of the said Financial Accountant and Assistant Receiver-General, the annual returns for colonial taxes, to make out from such returns, or in cases of partnership or joint property, from the affidavits thereunto relating, as hereinbefore required, a list or registry of the names of all persons in the respective districts, who shall appear by such returns and affidavits to be *primâ facie* qualified to vote as aforesaid; and in such list or register the said names shall be arranged in alphabetical order of the surnames of the parties so qualified as aforesaid; and upon the completion of such lists the same shall be posted up during office hours in some conspicuous place in the offices of the said Financial Accountant and Assistant Receiver-General, and shall moreover be three times published in the Royal Gazette of the colony.

5. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Financial Accountant and Assistant Receiver-General, and they are hereby respectively authorized and required to correct and amend such list or register, if it should at any time be made to appear to them or either of them that any clerical or other error has by either of them been committed therein; and it shall be further lawful for any person or persons claiming a right to vote whose name shall not have been inserted in any such list or registry as aforesaid by the Financial Accountant or Assistant Receiver-General, as the case may be, to prefer in writing a representation of any such non-insertion to the Secretary of the Court of Policy, which shall by the said secretary be as soon as may be practicable thereafter laid before the honourable the Court of Policy, when the court will make such decision on the case and such order on the said Financial Accountant or Assistant Receiver-General relative thereto, as it may deem fit and proper.

6. And be it further enacted, That for the purposes of any election now pending, or in progress, or in which the votes may be returnable before the list or registry of votes for the year 1837 shall be completed, a list or registry of votes shall be framed by the said Financial Accountant and Assistant Receiver-General from the returns made for colonial taxes for the year 1836, and such list or registry shall be transmitted by the said Financial Accountant and the said Assistant Receiver-General, to the Secretary of the Court of Policy, one week at least before the period of voting at any such election shall cease, to be by the said secretary laid before the honourable the Court of Policy, when the boxes containing the votes at any such election shall be opened.

7. And be it further enacted, That every vote to be given at any such election as aforesaid, and every affidavit to be made in pursuance of the provisions of this ordinance, shall

Appendix, No. 6. be as near as may be respectively according to the forms set forth in the schedules hereunto annexed, under the letters (A.) (B.) and (C.)

And that no ignorance shall be pretended of this our ordinance, these presents shall be printed and published in the customary manner.

Thus done and enacted at our Ordinary Assembly, held at the Guiana Public Buildings, George Town, Demerara, this 2d day of December 1836, and published the 3d following.

J. Carmichael Smyth.

By command of the Court,

(signed) *H. E. F. Young*, Secretary.

(A.)

I, A. B. do swear, That C. D. and E. J. are partners of the firm of or joint common owners of Plantation (as the case may be) and that the individual share of direct taxes assessed for the year on said firm or plantation, and paid or payable by each of said amounts to 70 f.

(signed) *A. B.*

Partner in the firm of
(or joint proprietors of plantation)
(or agent of proprietor of plantation.)
(or partner in the firm of)

(B.)

I vote for A. B. to fill the present vacancy in the College of Electors (or College of Financial Representative, as the case may be)

(signed) *A. B.*

(or signed *A. B.*

Attorney, Agent, or Representative of C. D.
absent from the Colony.)

(C.)

FOR A CREDIBLE WITNESS.

I, A. B., do swear, That C. D., E. F., &c. (setting forth the names of the parties to whom the affidavit applies) are partners of the firm of (or joint owners of the plantation as the case may be); and that the individual share of direct taxes assessed on said firm or plantation (as the case may be) for the year paid or payable by each of said partners or joint owners (as the case may be), amounts to the sum of 70 guilders.

Appendix, No. 7.

Appendix, No. 7.

AN ORDINANCE to extend the Powers of the Special Justices, passed 23 June 1837.

(Enclosure in Sir *J. C. Smyth's* Despatch, 24 June 1837, No. 152.)

J. CARMICHAEL SMYTH,

(L. S.)

ORDINANCE enacted by his Excellency Major-General Sir *James Carmichael Smyth*, Bart., &c. &c. &c., by and with the Advice and Consent of the Honourable Court of Policy.

To all to whom these presents do, may or shall come, greeting: Be it known:

Preamble: WHEREAS it is expedient that the powers hitherto vested in the special justices of the peace should be increased;

Special justices in country districts vested with power to hear and determine cases of breaches of the peace and petty thefts.

1.—Be it therefore enacted, by his Excellency the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the honourable Court of Policy of British Guiana, That from and after the passing and publication of this Ordinance, such special justice for the time being throughout the colony of British Guiana, resident in the country districts of British Guiana, shall, within the country district to which he shall have been appointed to act as a special justice of the peace, have, and he is hereby vested with, full power and authority to take cognizance of, and to hear and determine in manner hereinafter mentioned, all cases of breaches of the peace which shall in his judgment not merit a severer punishment than a penalty of Two pounds sterling (Twenty-eight guilders), whether the same shall have been committed by apprenticed labourers or others; all cases of petty thefts, where the property stolen shall not exceed the value of Two pounds sterling; each and every case of the receipt of stolen property, not exceeding the same value, by any person or persons with a guilty knowledge that

that the same has been stolen; each and every case of embezzlement of property to the same value; each and every case where property not exceeding the same amount in value shall have been obtained from any person or persons under any false or fraudulent pretence, together with each and every case of malicious injury to property committed, by any person or persons, where the damage sustained shall not exceed the said amount of Two pounds sterling: Provided always, That each and every one of the offences hereinbefore enumerated shall have been committed by some person or persons within the limits of the district to which the said special justice shall have been appointed.

2.—And be it further enacted, That the special justices resident for the time being in Georgetown and New Amsterdam, shall have in each of their districts a like jurisdiction, power and authority over each and every one of the offences hereinbefore enumerated, save and except when any such offence shall have been committed within any of the wards of Georgetown, or within the limits of the town of New Amsterdam.

Special justices in Georgetown and New Amsterdam vested with same power. Exception.

3.—And be it further enacted, That any person or persons shall be at liberty to prefer to any such special justice of the peace (on oath) any complaint against any other person or persons for any of the offences hereinbefore enumerated, which complaint shall be reduced into writing, and shall be entered by the special justice in a book to be by him kept for that purpose; and such complaint shall contain a description of the charge preferred in words of ordinary use, with a reasonable specification of the time and place when and where the offence was committed; and upon the receipt of any such complaint, the special justice shall, if he see fit, issue a summons for the appearance before him of the person or persons accused, and of any witness or witnesses who may be required at such time and place as the special justice may think proper to appoint.

Complaint to special justice to be on oath and in writing. Summons to be issued.

4.—And be it further enacted, That each and every such summons for the appearance of the party charged, and of any witness or witnesses to be produced, shall be in the forms annexed, marked (A.) and (B.), and shall be served by any person whom the special justice shall appoint for the purpose; and if any person or persons charged with any offence under this Ordinance, after being served with any such summons to appear either personally or by the summons being left at his usual place of residence, shall refuse to render due obedience thereto, the special justice, after proof being made to his satisfaction of the service of any such summons upon the party charged by the oath of the party serving the same, shall proceed to hear the complainant and his witness or witnesses, if any, ex parte, and shall pronounce such decision on the case as he may deem just and reasonable.

Consequence of neglect of summons to appear to answer complaint preferred.

5.—And be it further enacted, That if any person or persons being summoned to appear as a witness or witnesses before any such special justice shall refuse or neglect to appear according to the tenor of the summons, such person or persons shall become liable to apprehension under a warrant to be issued for service by the special justice to any person or persons in the form annexed, marked (C.)

Any witness refusing after summons to appear, liable to apprehension.

6.—And be it further enacted, That any summons, warrant, commitment or order, if issued for the purposes of this Ordinance by any special justice, may without any further authority be carried into execution in any part of the colony, although beyond his district.

Warrant issued by special justice may be carried into execution in any part of colony.

7.—And be it further enacted, That on the appearance before the special justice of the complainant and the party accused, the special justice shall have full power and authority to administer an oath to the complainant, and if he see fit (in any case of breach of the peace), to the accused also, and to any witness or witnesses appearing, either for the complainant or for the accused; and the special justice shall carefully note down in a book to be by him kept for the purpose, the substance of the complaint and of the defence, with the evidence of each and every witness.

Substance of complaint, defence and evidence to be noted down.

8.—And be it further enacted, That the special justice shall have full power and authority to adjourn his proceedings from time to time, and to accept any security in money to the amount of Two pounds sterling (Twenty-eight guilders), for the appearance before him at any period to which he may adjourn his proceedings of the party charged, or in default of such security being given, the special justice may commit, in the form annexed, marked (D.), the offender to any duly authorized place of confinement, in or contiguous to his district, that he may deem proper, pending any such adjournment: Provided always, That no adjournment shall exceed forty-eight hours, except in cases of sickness or other unavoidable cause.

Special justice may adjourn and take security.

No adjournment to exceed forty-eight hours.

9.—And be it further enacted, That if any person or persons after having given to the special justice such security as aforesaid, for his appearance, after any such adjournment of the proceedings, shall, without any reasonable or lawful excuse to be allowed by the special justice, fail duly to make such appearance, the security given for such appearance shall be absolutely forfeited by the accused, and shall by the special justice be paid over to the colonial chest.

Security forfeited if party fail to appear after adjournment.

10.—And be it further enacted, That if on the hearing of any complaint the special justice shall be of opinion that the same is not deserving of any punishment or further inquiry, he may dismiss the same; and may in any case of breach of the peace sanction any compromise which he may deem just and proper between the parties.

Special justice may sanction compromise in cases of breaches of the peace.

11.—And be it further enacted, That if any person shall be either on his own confession, or in his absence after having been summoned as aforesaid, or on other evidence,

Punishment on conviction of offence.

Appendix, No. 7. convicted before any special justice of any offence under this Ordinance, save and except a breach of the peace, such person shall become liable to a penalty of not less than Five shillings, nor more than Two pounds sterling, with or without imprisonment with hard labour, solitary or otherwise, for any period not exceeding Six days in any gaol, or in any place sanctioned for the custody of delinquents under the Ordinance, No. 4, 1837, intituled, "An Ordinance to repeal an Ordinance to establish Inferior Courts of Criminal Justice of British Guiana, and to make Regulation and Provision instead thereof."

Penalty on conviction of breach of the peace.

12.—And be it further enacted, That if any person shall be convicted before any such special justice of any breach of the peace, such person shall become liable to a penalty of not less than Five shillings, nor more than Two pounds sterling.

Consequence of refusing to pay penalty.

13.—And be it further enacted, That if any person or persons who shall on conviction before any special justice be adjudged to pay any penalty, shall refuse or neglect to pay the same, he or she shall by the special justice be committed either to the common gaol or to any duly sanctioned place of confinement as aforesaid, in the form annexed under the letter (E.), for a period not exceeding six days, unless the penalty be sooner paid.

No process of special justice to be quashed for want of form.

14.—And be it further enacted, That no summons, warrant or process of any kind issued by the special justice shall be quashed for want of form, or held void by reason of any defect therein, if expressed with reasonable accuracy; but such process shall receive such a liberal construction from all courts and judges as shall support the same as good and effectual for the purpose or purposes for which the same shall have been issued.

And that no ignorance may be pretended of this our Ordinance, these presents shall be printed and published as customary.

Thus done and enacted at our Ordinary Assembly, held at the Guiana Public Buildings, George-town, Demerary, this Twenty-third June, One thousand eight hundred and Thirty-seven, and published on the First July following.

By command of the Court. (signed) *J. Carmichael Smyth.*
(signed) *H. E. F. Young, Secretary.*

(A.)

FORM OF SUMMONS to appear before a Special Justice to answer a Charge preferred.

WHEREAS a complaint has been preferred to me by A. B. (or, it has been made to appear to me on credible evidence), that you, C. D., did on the _____ day of _____ in the year of our Lord 18____ (here state briefly the nature of the offence).

Now I do hereby summon and require you, the said C. D., to attend before me on the _____ day of _____ next, at _____ then and there to answer to the said complaint, and further to proceed according to law.

Given under my hand this _____ day of _____ 18____

To E. F., of _____ Special Justice.

(B.)

FORM OF SUMMONS for Attendance of a Witness before a Special Justice.

These are to require you to attend before me on the _____ day of _____ next, at the hour of _____ at _____ then and there to be examined before me as a witness, touching and concerning a certain complaint now depending before me, preferred before me by A. B. against C. D.

Given under my hand, this _____ day of _____ 18____

To _____ E. F.
the Colony of British Guiana.

(C.)

WARRANT of ARREST for any Person refusing to attend as a Witness before a Special Justice after the service of Summons.

Whereas on the _____ day of _____ 18____ I did issue my summons, requiring A. B. to appear before me to be examined as a witness, (here state the purport of the summons); and whereas the service of the said summons on the said A. B. has been made to appear to me by sufficient proof, and he hath neglected to render obedience thereto. Now you are hereby authorized to arrest the person of the said A. B., and him (or her) to bring before me on the _____ day of _____ next, at _____ and for so doing this shall be your warrant.

Given under my hand this _____ day of _____ 18____

To _____ Special Justice.

(D.) COMMITMENT

(D.)

COMMITMENT by Special Justice in Default of Security.

Whereas A. B. was this day brought before me on a complaint preferred against him (or her) by C. D. for (here briefly state the nature of the offence), and it has become necessary to adjourn the further investigation of the complaint until _____, and the said A. B. having by me been required to give sufficient security for his further appearance before me, on the _____ day of _____ at _____ then and there further to proceed in the matter of the said complaint, hath refused (or neglected) to give the said security by me required. These are, therefore, to require and command you, him (or her) the said A. B., safely to convey and deliver to _____ at _____ who is hereby authorized and required him (or her) the said A. B. to receive, and safely in his custody to keep, until the said A. B. shall give the said security or be otherwise discharged in due course of law.

Given under my hand this _____ day of _____ 18

To

Special Justice.

(E.)

FORM of COMMITMENT of a Party refusing or neglecting after Conviction to pay Penalty.

Whereas upon the _____ day of _____ 18 _____ A. B. was convicted before me of having on the _____ day of _____ at _____ (here briefly state the nature of the offence,) and I did then adjudge the said A. B., for his said offence, to pay a penalty of _____. And the said A. B., although by me so convicted and required to pay the said penalty, hath refused (or neglected) to pay the same. These are, therefore, to authorize and require you him (or her) the said A. B. safely to convey and deliver to the keeper of the common gaol (or other duly sanctioned place of confinement, as the case may be,) who is hereby authorized and required him (or her) the said A. B. to receive and safely to keep in custody, for a period not exceeding _____ days, unless the said penalty be sooner paid, or the said A. B. be otherwise discharged in due course of law.

Given under my hand this _____ day of _____ 18

To

Special Justice.

GROUND PLAN
OF
MAJESTY'S GAOL,
AMSTERDAM DISTRICT
of
BERBICE.

a New Gaol Yard

b Old d.° d.°

1. New Gaol & Solitary Cells

2. Pond.

3. Wind-mill House

4. Old Gaol & Hospital

5. House & Premises of the Keeper.

6. Turnkey's House.

7. Police Barracks

8. Cook Rooms

9. Privies.







